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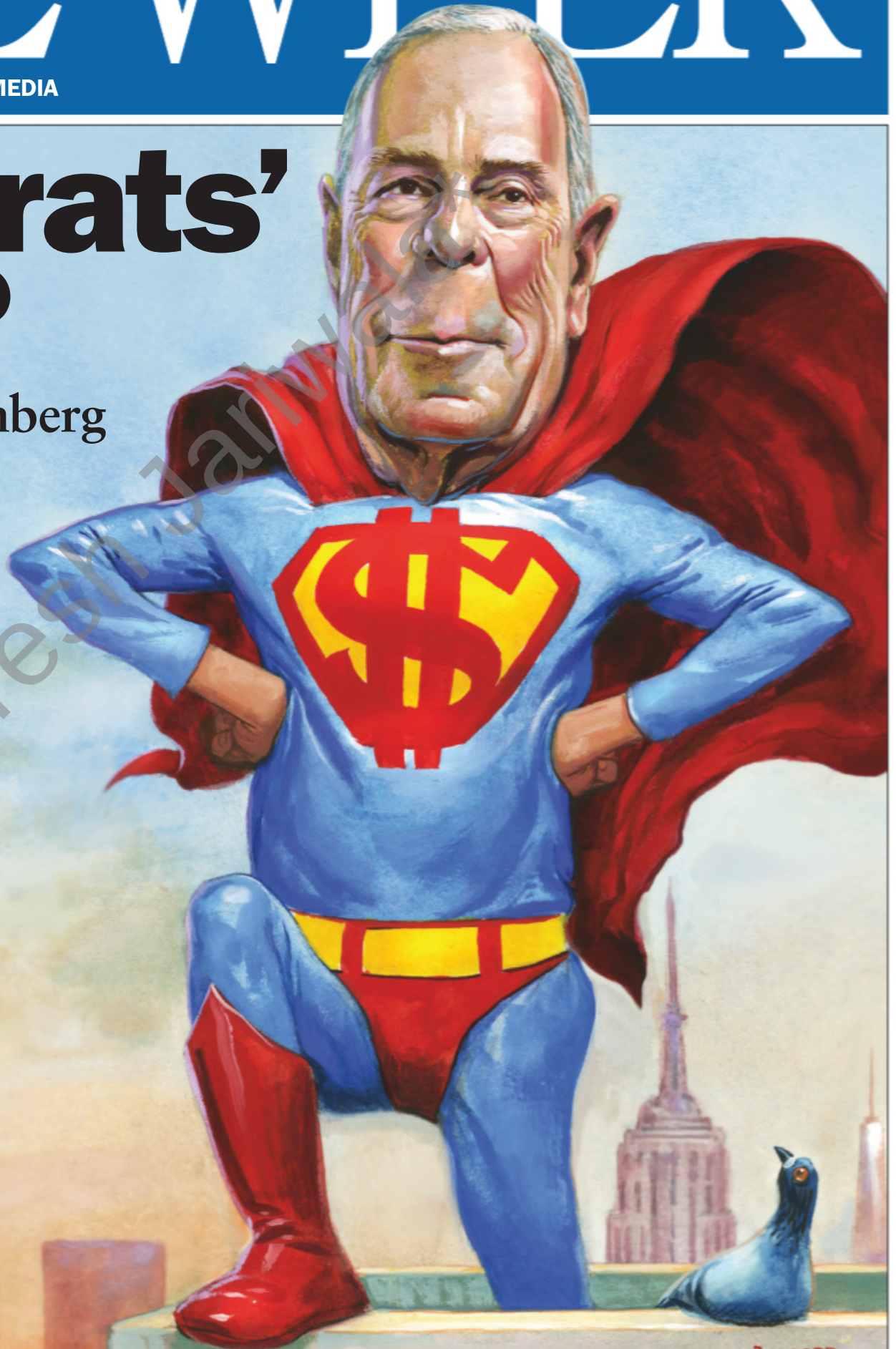
THE WEEK

THE BEST OF THE U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA

Democrats' savior?

Why billionaire Bloomberg
may leap into
the presidential race

p.5



F-HARPER

NOVEMBER 22, 2019 VOLUME 19 ISSUE 951

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From **army vet** to **physicist**

Josh learned how on YouTube. What will you learn?

"After I got back from my third deployment in Iraq in 2011, I got a job as a janitor at a high school. One day in the library I started reading *A Brief History of Time* by Stephen Hawking. I was hooked. I realized then that I wanted to be a physicist. But I only had a 10th grade math education. So I taught myself trigonometry and calculus by watching videos on YouTube. If I didn't understand something, I'd pause the video and find other videos explaining it until I figured out what I was missing.

I learned enough math to get into Radford University and I graduated with honors! I'm now in my dream job as a scientist, studying the stars every day. I can't ever see myself doing anything else. It's like reaching for the unattainable and actually grabbing it."

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Editor's letter

Lacking a pulse is no longer an obstacle to having a thriving Hollywood career. That became clear last week when director Anton Ernst announced that James Dean—dead since 1955—had been cast in a leading role in his upcoming Vietnam War movie, *Finding Jack*. To resurrect Dean, Ernst will feed old footage and photos of the *Rebel Without a Cause* star into advanced CGI software. Still-breathing actors reacted with outrage, perhaps fearing the dead might soon come for their jobs. “This is awful,” said *Captain America* star Chris Evans. “Maybe we can get a computer to paint us a new Picasso. The complete lack of understanding here is shameful.” The entertainment industry has experimented with digital necromancy before: High-tech wizardry allowed Peter Cushing and Carrie Fisher to reprise their *Star Wars* roles post-mortem, and hologram versions of Elvis and Frank Zappa have toured the world. But Dean is the first star to be brought back for a work with which he had no connection while alive.

It was perhaps inevitable that Hollywood would start reviving old screen greats, because it already makes a killing resuscitating old movies. In the past year, Disney has released live-action remakes of four of its classic animated movies—*Dumbo*, *Aladdin*, *The Lion King*, and *Lady and the Tramp*—and more redos are in the works. And as Martin Scorsese recently griped (see Talking Points), all Marvel superhero movies are “remakes in spirit,” because they follow the same market-researched narrative arc: A hero emerges, struggles with self-doubt, then beats those inner demons along with the supervillain. In this risk-averse environment, recycling dead actors makes perfect sense—they can’t embarrass movie studios with sex scandals, dumb comments, or drug problems, and they’ll never abandon a franchise to make art house movies. So let me offer my congratulations in advance to James Dean, who’s sure to be cast as the next Spider-Man.

Theunis Bates
Managing editor

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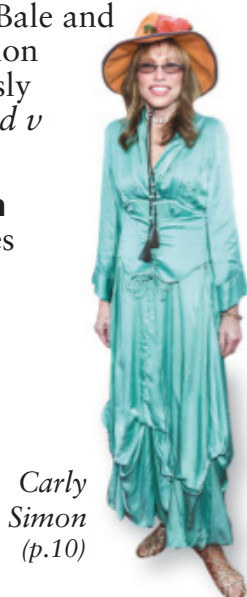
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THE WEEK

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Witnesses tie Trump to Ukraine demands

What happened

The House of Representatives' first public impeachment hearings commenced this week with testimony from a top American diplomat that President Trump was deeply invested in efforts to pressure Ukraine for investigations that would help his re-election campaign. William Taylor, the acting U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, revealed that his staff overheard Trump asking European Union Ambassador Gordon Sondland about "the investigations" on a phone call, with Sondland telling Trump the Ukrainians were "ready to move forward." Taylor said this call came after Trump's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, had been pressuring Ukraine to launch investigations into former Vice President Joe Biden and his son, Hunter. Taylor also said that Sondland told his staff that Trump "cares more about the investigations of Biden" than anything else involving Ukraine.

The damaging new revelations came in addition to Taylor's earlier closed-door testimony that State Department officials were told that investigations into Biden were a precondition for Trump releasing nearly \$400 million in congressionally approved military aid to Ukraine. George Kent, another senior State Department official in Ukraine, testified that Trump wanted "nothing less than [for Ukrainian] President Volodymyr Zelensky to go to a microphone and say investigations, Biden, and Clinton." *The New York Times* reported that after months of pressure, Zelensky agreed to make such a statement in an interview with Fareed Zakaria on CNN on Sept. 13. But the interview was abruptly canceled after a whistleblower came forward to complain about a call Trump made to Zelensky, and a bipartisan group of senators successfully pushed the Trump administration to release the aid.

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff said that if the hearings show that Trump "sought to condition, coerce, extort, or bribe an ally into conducting investigations to aid his re-election campaign," then the House has no choice. "If this is not impeachable conduct, what is?" Republicans sought to redirect the focus to Hunter Biden's dealings in Ukraine, where he served on the board of natural gas firm Burisma, complaining that he should be called to testify. Rep. Devin Nunes of California, the ranking GOP member of the House Intelligence Committee, called the impeachment hearings the "low-rent Ukrainian sequel" to the Russia investigation.

What the editorials said

"Over the next few weeks, the only question that matters is whether Trump's actions meet the constitutional threshold for impeachment," said *The Boston Globe*. Already, the public has heard damning testimony that it does. Offering to exchange the release of \$400 million in military aid for personal political fa-



Kent and Taylor being sworn in: The hearings begin.

vors is not only a gross abuse of power but also a clear act of bribery, which the Constitution specifically cites as an impeachable offense. In insisting he did nothing wrong, Trump "is not asking for forgiveness; he's demanding approval." If Congress gives it to him, "there's no going back."

Public hearings don't make the Democrats' so-called inquiry "any less of a farce," said the *New York Post*. Instead of conducting genuine fact-finding, Democratic leaders are making the process "as scripted as possible" by

only calling witnesses who've already testified in secret. GOP members won't be allowed to call Joe Biden and his son and grill them about their conduct in Ukraine, which could show Trump's genuine interest in fighting corruption there. "It's a disgrace."

What the columnists said

The claim that Trump actually cared about corruption in Ukraine is laughable, said Jonathan Chait in *NYMag.com*. Ignoring official diplomatic channels and dispatching your personal lawyer and two goons with links to the Russian mob to twist arms for political favors is not something you do "if you're looking to fight corruption." Trump's henchmen Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman were actually pushing for a piece of Ukraine's energy import business at the same time they were shaking down the country for investigations into the Bidens. Trump's only interest in corruption was to use the word to smear a political rival.

Trump's conduct was certainly "blameworthy," said Rich Lowry in *NationalReview.com*, but he didn't break any law. Removing a duly elected president "requires a national consensus to get the two-thirds vote to convict in the Senate." To get there, Democrats can't just say what the president did was "troubling and wrong." They need evidence of acts "shocking to the conscience."

What next?

"Democrats hope the public hearings make the details of the Ukraine scandal more digestible for voters at home," said Steven Shepard in *Politico.com*. But so far, most voters "remain unmoved" in their views of impeachment. Americans are almost equally split on impeachment, with a recent poll showing 49 percent of voters support the House impeaching Trump and 48 percent support the Senate removing him from office. And 62 percent of all voters say there is "no chance" they could change their mind about impeachment. Americans are watching the hearings unfold in two different worlds, said Eric Lach in *NewYorker.com*. As Taylor gave his opening statement, Fox News ran text boxes quoting the White House incorrectly describing him as a "Never Trumper" with "no first-hand knowledge" of Ukraine aid. In coming weeks, the White House will rely on Fox "to present the impeachment hearings as a matter of interpretation."

What we've learned *should* shock the conscience, said David Ignatius in *The Washington Post*. As Taylor's testimony clearly showed, Trump was treating military aid as his "personal political tool" while our Ukrainian allies were fighting a desperate war against Russian proxies that has cost 13,000 lives so far. "People died while Trump played games" with aid Ukrainians needed to defend themselves from Russian tanks. And don't forget about Trump's continued stonewalling, said Neal Katyal in *The New York Times*. Every government official who has stepped forward to testify has done so against the orders of the White House, which is refusing to let Cabinet officials such as Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney and former national security adviser John Bolton testify. "Trump's brazen contempt of Congress" is in itself "an impeachable offense."

Bloomberg files to join Democratic field

What happened

The Democratic presidential primary was shaken up this week after Michael Bloomberg—the billionaire businessman and former three-term mayor of New York City—filed to run in Alabama and Arkansas, barreling into the primary’s center lane. Bloomberg, who at 77 has amassed a \$52 billion fortune on the strength of a global media company, said in March that he would not run in 2020. But he’d grown increasingly concerned that the front-runners, former Vice President Joe Biden and Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), could not beat President Trump. Bloomberg, who became a national political force by donating tens of millions of dollars to Democratic candidates and gun control groups, has said he would finance any campaign with his own money. Advisers said that his wealth lets Bloomberg be “unbought and unbossed” and that he’d spend “whatever it takes” to defeat Trump. One national poll showed Bloomberg leading Trump by 6 percentage points—but garnering support from only 4 percent of Democratic primary voters.



‘Unbought, unbossed’?

Bloomberg’s candidacy has “several large issues,” said the Fort Lauderdale *Sun-Sentinel*. He needs to convince voters that his motivation has more to do with beating Trump than with Warren’s wealth tax, and he fares poorly with blacks and Hispanics, who were “most often stopped and frisked without cause” by New York police during his mayoralty. Bloomberg also has to contend with allegations that he made sexist remarks and oversaw a company with a deeply sexist work environment.

What the columnists said

Michael Bloomberg’s run is “a vote of no confidence” in Joe Biden, said **Dan Balz** in *The Washington Post*. For months, the New York billionaire has waited on the sidelines, confident that the centrist Biden’s strong polling showed he could defeat Trump. But as Biden stumbled, falling in the polls and reportedly encountering difficulty raising cash, Bloomberg decided he’d seen enough. His run is “evidence that the donor wing of the party” is “truly terrified” that “Warren has gained the upper hand in the nomination contest” but will not sufficiently appeal to moderate voters to win the general election.

Bloomberg’s potential candidacy drew rebukes from party bosses in Iowa and New Hampshire—two states whose early primaries he plans to skip in favor of focusing on Super Tuesday (March 3), when 14 states hold primaries. His likely entry into the race also prompted Warren and Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), who have both proposed new taxes on the rich, to accuse him of trying to buy the presidency. “The billionaire class is scared, and they should be scared,” said Sanders, while Warren called his candidacy “another example of the wealthy wanting our government and economy to only work for themselves.” Trump, meanwhile, quickly applied a mocking nickname to his potential adversary, saying, “There’s nobody I’d rather run against than Little Michael.”

What the editorials said

“Go, Mike,” said the New York *Daily News*. Unlike that “huckster demagogue” in the White House, Bloomberg is a “real New York billionaire” who built a business from scratch, drove crime down in New York City, “made bold moves to improve public health, created safer and better streets and public spaces,” and ushered in New York’s emergence as a “tech economy leader.”

If Bloomberg wants to avoid a Warren victory, he has it backward, said **Peter Beinart** in *The Atlantic.com*.

What better way for Warren, whose national numbers have dipped following her avowed support for “Medicare for All,” to get “her mojo back” than to campaign “against a billionaire 52 times over who keeps slamming her proposed wealth tax”? With Bloomberg potentially in the race, Biden’s donors are reportedly reconsidering their support. And if “Bloomberg stops anyone,” it’s most likely to be Pete Buttigieg, the rising candidate whose “moderate turf” Bloomberg wants to “muscle onto.” Bloomberg’s run “will empower the very forces” he fears.

We don’t even know if Bloomberg is definitely running, said **Gabriel Debenedetti** in *NYMag.com*. This may just be a “trial balloon to see how voters and the media treat him before fully committing.” Or his potential campaign might be “an insurance policy” against the possibility that Biden gets whopped in the early primary contests. That would explain his unorthodox decision to skip the first four primary states (Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada, and South Carolina) and position himself “as a white-knight candidate who could step in if Biden collapses.”

It wasn’t all bad

■ When Ethan Crispo walked into a Waffle House in Birmingham, Ala., for a midnight snack, he was sure he’d go home with an empty stomach. There were 30 customers in the restaurant and—because of a scheduling mishap—only one harried employee, Ben, who was cooking the food and cleaning up. Then, a customer asked Ben for an apron, stepped behind the counter, and started washing dishes. Two other diners began busing tables, and the restaurant was running smoothly again. “Humanity isn’t just good,” said Crispo. “It’s great.”

■ **Jonathan Pinkard has a new heart and a new family, all thanks to nurse Lori Wood. The autistic 27-year-old was living in a men’s shelter and in need of a heart transplant when he arrived at Georgia’s Piedmont Newnan Hospital late last year.**



Pinkard and Mama Lori

But because Pinkard had no one to care for him post-surgery, he couldn’t join the transplant waiting list. After caring for Pinkard for two days, Wood made her patient a life-changing offer: If he wanted, she would become his legal guardian. Pinkard moved in with Wood in January and underwent heart surgery in August; he hopes to be well enough to resume his job as an office clerk soon. “All I can say is, ‘Thank you, Mama Lori,’” said Pinkard.

■ Police Sgt. Mike Nowacki had a plan: He’d run Chicago’s Allstate Hot Chocolate 15K in 50 pounds of SWAT gear and then propose to his girlfriend, Officer Erin Gubala, at the finish line. The race went well, but as he approached the final stretch, Nowacki heard people screaming for someone to help an unconscious woman. Nowacki rushed over and administered CPR with a firefighter until an ambulance arrived; doctors said their actions saved the woman’s life. Eventually, Nowacki powered on to the finish line, told Gubala what had happened, and popped the question. “She had to say yes after that,” said Nowacki—and she did.

The Berlin Wall: 30 years on, what has changed?

So much for “the End of History,” said **Ishaan Tharoor** in *The Washington Post*. When the Berlin Wall came down 30 years ago this past weekend, the free world reacted with giddy euphoria. That revolutionary moment didn’t just mean the reunification of Germany, we were told, or even the defeat of communism and the end of the Cold War. The peaceful fall of the Wall was hailed as history’s joyous finish line, after which the global triumph of liberal democracy and capitalism was no longer in serious question. But history, it turns out, “never ‘ended.’” Thirty years later, Communist China is the world’s “looming hegemon”; Hungary and Poland are embracing authoritarian, one-party rule; the forces of tribalism and “demagogic populism” are ripping Europe apart; after a fleeting “Arab Spring,” the Middle East has backslid into sectarian bloodshed and tyranny; and in Russia, *de facto* one-party rule has been re-established by a former KGB officer with all-too-familiar territorial ambitions. Then there’s the elephant in the room, said **John Avlon** in *CNN.com*. The United States of America, whose leadership, strength, and example was the decisive factor in the Wall’s collapse, is now led by a NATO-skeptical nationalist who admires Russian autocrat Vladimir Putin and welcomed his interference in a presidential election. Thirty years after the jubilation of 1989, “we’ve gone from tearing down walls to building them, and democracy itself seems in retreat.”

The real elephant in the room is socialism, said **Helen Raleigh** in *TheFederalist.com*. The centrally planned, communist economy of East Germany failed miserably, leaving those living under Soviet control in drab near-poverty, while capitalist West Germany boomed. Yet, “like a zombie, socialism refuses to die” and has even taken root here in the U.S. Far-left candidates like Bernie



Tearing down that wall

Sanders and Elizabeth Warren are riding high in the polls, buoyed by young, self-styled “Democratic Socialists” who never knew the horrors of the Soviet Union. Nearly half of Millennials describe themselves as “socialist,” said **John Hartley** in *USAToday.com*. The plans they support—most notably, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez’s “Green New Deal”—would bring much of the economy under government control and drag the U.S. toward the collectivist oppression that was so dramatically proved a failure in 1989.

It isn’t just the Left that’s sliding backward, said **Brian Klaas** in *The Washington Post*. Behind the “would-be strongman” Donald Trump, the Republican Party has shown some troubling, anti-majoritarian tendencies. In 2014, fully 1 in 6

Americans said that military rule would be “good” or “very good,” whereas back in 1995 that figure was only 1 in 16. Let’s face it, said **Fred Kaplan** in *Slate.com*. The lesson of 1989 is that history isn’t a simple, linear narrative with a happy ending. “History is an unending whirlwind, and we’re caught in it.”

I was there when the Wall came down, said **Serge Schmemmann** in *The New York Times*, and while the hope we all felt seems “quaintly utopian” with the benefit of hindsight, “I refuse to accept that nothing changed.” That exhilarating moment proved that peaceful protest can bring down an empire—and it is still inspiring people from Hong Kong to Chile to rise up and demand their freedom. If freedom does prevail, said **Max Boot** in *The Washington Post*, it won’t be because “historical forces” were always pushing in that direction, as it seemed back in 1989. The fight against oppression will be won only by “historical actors”—“in other words, us.”

Only in America

■ An Iowa court has ruled against an inmate who claimed he completed his life sentence by briefly dying. Benjamin Schreiber, 66, serving life for murder, was resuscitated after his heart stopped, and Schreiber argued that his “death” qualified him for release. The court was unpersuaded. “Schreiber is either still alive,” wrote Judge Amanda Potterfield, “in which case he must remain in prison, or he is actually dead, in which case this appeal is moot.”

■ Residents of Chicago Public Housing could face eviction for marijuana use, even though the drug will soon be legal for both medical and recreational use in Illinois. Marijuana is still illegal under federal law, the housing authority warns, so those who consume it in public housing will still be guilty of “drug-related criminal activity.”

Good week for:

Modern vampires, after Ambrosia, a Silicon Valley startup, resumed selling transfusions of blood plasma from young donors to wealthy, aging customers hoping to reinvigorate themselves. Ambrosia’s CEO had temporarily suspended operations after the FDA warned that the transfusions—which cost \$8,000 per liter—had “no proven clinical benefit.”

Ivanka Trump, who has single-handedly created 14 million jobs since 2017, a senior White House official (her father) boasted in a speech. This means Ivanka deserves credit for a staggering 233 percent of the 6 million U.S. jobs created during this period.

Stasis, after the Dow Jones industrial average closed on Tuesday at 27691.49, representing a daily loss or gain of exactly 0.00 percent. This was the market’s first “flat finish” since 2014.

Bad week for:

Millennials, with a new study warning of “troubling generational health patterns” among those born between 1981 and 1996, including depression, hyperactivity, high cholesterol, and substance abuse. “Without intervention,” the study says, Millennials could have a 40 percent higher mortality rate than (the preceding) Generation X.

Long-term plans, after a team of scientists and statisticians estimated that humanity has a 1 in 14,000 chance of going extinct next year due to asteroid strikes, supervolcano eruptions, or nuclear war.

Reruns, after Hillary Clinton said “many, many, many people” were pleading with her to enter the Democratic presidential race. “I, as I say, never, never, never say never,” said Clinton.

Trump admits to misusing charity

President Trump admitted to misusing his charity’s funds last week and agreed to pay \$2 million in damages. Settling a lawsuit with New York state, the president acknowledged using Trump Foundation funds on his businesses and to buy an autographed Tim Tebow football helmet and a \$10,000 portrait of himself that was hung at his Doral, Fla., golf resort. The foundation raised \$2.8 million at a supposed veterans fundraiser in 2016, which Trump illegally diverted to his campaign. Trump agreed to disperse the foundation’s remaining \$1.8 million to eight charities and follow restrictions in future charitable work, such as submitting to audits. Trump himself has donated little to his foundation in recent years and donated nothing from 2009 to 2015.

Columbus, Ohio

Circle of silence: A professional referee said that Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Ohio), then an assistant wrestling coach at Ohio

Denies he knew of abuse

State University, brushed off a complaint about disgraced team doctor Richard Strauss' sexual misconduct, a lawsuit alleged last week. The ref says he reported that Strauss masturbated in front of him in a shower after a match, and Jordan replied, "Yeah, that's Strauss." The assertion comes in a lawsuit filed by 43 survivors against Ohio State, which alleges that Strauss drugged and raped athletes and abused kids as young as 14. Jordan, a coach from 1986 to 1994, called the referee's statements "ridiculous," maintaining he was unaware of Strauss' predations. Former wrestler Donyasha Yetts previously said he told Jordan that Strauss, who died in 2005, tried to pull down his pants. Yetts commended the unnamed ref for speaking out, adding, "Jordan and the other coaches knew what was going on and they blew it off."

Mobile, Ala.

Sweet home Alabama: Former Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced last week that he will run to reclaim his old Senate seat, banking on his ability to overcome the months of scorn President Trump heaped

Seeking his old job back

on him before forcing him out last year. Sessions' first campaign ad emphasized his unwavering support for Trump: "Did I write a tell-all book? No. Did I go on CNN and attack the president? Nope." Trump, who was furious at his AG for recusing himself in the Russia probe, called the appointment his "biggest mistake" as president, saying Sessions was a "dumb Southerner" who "should be ashamed of himself." Alabama holds its GOP primary election on March 3, and the winner will face Democrat Doug Jones, who won a startling upset in a 2018 special election to fill Sessions' seat. A poll this week showed 71 percent of Alabama Republicans still view Sessions favorably.

Washington, D.C.

WikiLeaked: Onetime Trump campaign deputy chairman Rick Gates testified that he witnessed a phone call between Trump and former adviser Roger Stone about WikiLeaks' efforts to disclose and publicize emails stolen from the Democratic National Committee. After hanging up, Gates testified, Trump personally told him that "more information would be coming." With Stone standing trial for lying to Congress, obstruction, and witness tampering, Gates' testimony is a key piece of evidence of an ongoing relationship between WikiLeaks and the Trump campaign. It stands in stark contrast to Trump's own testimony to special counsel Robert Mueller, in which Trump said he didn't recall speaking with Stone around that time. Former Trump strategist Steve Bannon also testified that the campaign saw Stone as an "access point" to WikiLeaks. Stone's defense rested without calling witnesses.

Washington, D.C.

DACA in doubt: The Supreme Court's conservative majority appeared poised this week to let the Trump administration shut down a program protecting 700,000 young immigrants known as "Dreamers." During oral arguments, Justice Brett Kavanaugh said President Trump made a "considered decision" in 2017 to wind down Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, an Obama-era program shielding some immigrants brought in illegally as children from deportation. Opponents of Trump's action have argued the administration gave no policy justification for ending the program, pulling the rug out from people who'd relied on the government's assurances. Trump once called DACA beneficiaries "good, educated, and accomplished young people," but more recently he's claimed that they are "no angels." Justice Sonia Sotomayor called the decision to end DACA "a choice to destroy lives." Also this week, the court let families of victims in the 2012 Newtown, Conn., school shooting sue gunmaker Remington Arms, maker of the gunman's AR-15-style rifle.



Appealing to SCOTUS

Washington, D.C.

Alt-right email thread: Presidential adviser Stephen Miller routinely promoted white nationalist sites and sources before joining the White House, according to 900-plus emails leaked this week that he sent editors at Breitbart News in 2015 and '16. Miller, a driving force behind many of President Trump's hard-line immigration policies, argued against giving Mexican victims of 2015's Hurricane Patricia temporary refuge in the U.S. and cited a link from VDARE, a site that endorses the "white genocide" theory that people of color are scheming to overtake whites. Miller also slammed Amazon for halting sales of Confederate flags after the 2015 massacre in a Charleston, S.C., black church. In other emails, Miller urged Breitbart writers and editors to read *Camp of the Saints*, a dystopian novel resurrected by the alt-right that depicts refugees as murderers and rapists. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) said the emails exposed Miller as a "bona fide white nationalist."



Miller

Washington, D.C.

Visiting strongman: President Trump drew fierce criticism this week for hosting Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan at the White House, one month after a Turkish offensive displaced an estimated 180,000 people in northern Syria. With crowds of protesters outside, Trump said he and Erdogan are "very good friends" and that Turkey's cease-fire deal is "holding very well," though Trump said Erdogan "has to do something" about the "many people from Turkey being killed." Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) called welcoming Erdogan "absolutely shameful." Though the House overwhelmingly passed a bipartisan bill to impose sanctions on Turkey for attacking Syria's Kurds, and a similar bill winds its way through the Senate, Trump has offered Erdogan a new trade deal. "It's time for us not to be worried about other people's borders," Trump said next to Erdogan, adding, "We left troops behind only for the oil."



Johnson: Sitting on report

London

Kremlin interference: Hillary Clinton this week joined many U.K. politicians in criticizing Prime Minister Boris Johnson's decision to sit on a report about Russian interference in British politics—including in the 2016 Brexit referendum and the 2017 election. The 50-page dossier was produced after an investigation by Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee, and intelligence agencies have cleared it for release. But Johnson said it needed additional vetting and would not be made public until after Britain's Dec. 12 election. Clinton, in the U.K. for a book tour, called the decision "inexplicable and shameful." *The Sunday Times* reported that the dossier names nine wealthy Russians who have donated generously to Johnson's Conservative Party.

Toronto

Hockey institution fired: Hockey announcer Don Cherry, a fixture on Canadian TV for more than three decades, is off the air after he questioned the patriotism of immigrants to Canada. Cherry, 85, complained that people in Toronto—where the population is half nonwhite—failed to wear poppies for Remembrance Day to commemorate the Canadians who died in World War I. "You people that come here," he said, "you love our way of life, you love our milk and honey, at least you can pay a couple bucks for a poppy." Cherry has co-hosted a segment on *Hockey Night in Canada* since 1986 and has been accused of xenophobia, because he criticizes European-born players as weak or lazy. He has also called Quebec nationalists "a bunch of whiners" and opponents of fighting in the game "turncoats."

La Mora, Mexico

Mormons flee: Traveling in an 18-vehicle convoy, about 100 of the 200 members of an American Mormon community in northern Mexico have moved to Arizona after nine of their family members were massacred by drug cartel gunmen. More members of the La Mora community are expected to relocate soon. Bryce Langford, whose mother, Dawna, was shot dead in last week's ambush along with two of his brothers—ages 11 and 2—said the community had been discussing a move even before the attack because of increased cartel activity near their homes. But they hadn't expected to have to flee so suddenly, he said. Mormons have lived in Mexico since the church banned polygamy a century ago, leading Mormon families with multiple wives to head south. The La Mora community was established in 1944.



Burying the dead

Madrid

Leftist coalition: After its fourth election in four years, Spain may finally have a coalition government. Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez's center-left Socialist Party came in first in this week's parliamentary elections and will stay in power, although it took only 120 of 350 seats—three fewer than it won in April's election. After that election, Sánchez failed in his attempts to form a coalition with the far-left Podemos party, prompting this week's rerun. This time, though, the two left-wing parties clinched a deal just two days after the vote. The election also saw the ultraright Vox surge in popularity, vaulting from 24 seats to 52. Three years ago, that anti-immigrant party was a fringe movement with less than 1 percent of the vote.



Sánchez: A government at last?

Ankara

ISIS deportations: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has begun deporting suspected ISIS fighters to their home nations, and he said he would continue to do so unless Western countries stopped threatening sanctions against Turkey. He was apparently responding to the European Union's announcement this week that it would sanction Turkey for its unauthorized oil drilling off the coast of Cyprus. Turkey has detained some 2,500 members of the terrorist group, and this week it sent several dozen detainees to France, Germany, Denmark, and Ireland. A U.S. citizen who said he did not want to go home was deported to Greece. But Greece refused him entry and Turkey wouldn't take him back, so he was left stuck in the buffer zone separating the two countries.



Erdogan

**Curitiba, Brazil**

Lula goes free: Former Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva was greeted by throngs of cheering, red-shirted supporters after he was released from prison last week, having served a year and a half behind bars. Lula, one of the most popular presidents in Brazilian history, was sent to prison in 2018 for eight years and 10 months after being found guilty of accepting a beach house from a company seeking government contracts. But the evidence against Lula was thin, and his supporters say the charges were political. The Supreme Court ruled last week that defendants should not be jailed until they have exhausted their appeals, so Lula was freed—along with some 5,000 other people—while he pursues an appeal. If his conviction is eventually overturned, Lula will likely become the leftist Workers' Party candidate in the 2022 election.



Out of prison

St. Petersburg, Russia

Murderous professor: A Russian expert on Napoleon has admitted that he killed his student lover—after he was caught trying to drunkenly dump her dismembered arms in the Moika River. “I am devastated,” Oleg Sokolov, 63, told a court this week, saying he was deeply sorry for killing Anastasia Yeshchenko, 24. He claimed

that she had threatened him with a knife, leading him to shoot her four times with a sawed-off shotgun and then chop up her body with a saw and kitchen knife. Sokolov, a professor at the prestigious St. Petersburg University and a prominent re-enactor of the Napoleonic Wars, has a history of alleged violence. In 2008, another female student said that Sokolov tied her up and beat her when she wanted to leave him. She reported Sokolov to the authorities after escaping, but he was not arrested.



Sokolov



Istanbul

White Helmets founder killed? A former British army officer who helped found the Syrian rescue group known as the White Helmets was found dead outside his Istanbul apartment this week, having apparently fallen from a balcony. Suspicion fell immediately on the Russian government, which had accused James Le Mesurier, 48, of being a terrorist and a spy. Russian intelligence services have a history of defenestrating their targets. Le Mesurier set up Mayday Rescue, a nonprofit that organized and trained the White Helmets—known officially as Syria Civil Defense. The 3,000-member group is a volunteer organization whose first responders have pulled thousands of civilians out of the rubble after bombings of residential areas, mostly by Syrian and Russian forces. The group has been the target of a Russian disinformation campaign that accuses it of faking chemical attacks and staging gory bombing scenes.



Le Mesurier

Kabul

Prisoner swap: Two American University of Afghanistan professors who were kidnapped by the Taliban three years ago could soon be free. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani said that he would release three Taliban commanders in exchange for American Kevin King, 63, and Australian Timothy Weeks, 50. Four months after they were taken from their car at gunpoint, the two men appeared in a hostage video looking haggard, weeping, and pleading to be released, but they haven't been seen since. A Navy SEAL attempt to rescue them in 2016 was unsuccessful. The three militants who will be released are members of the Haqqani network, a hard-line faction of the Taliban based in Pakistan. Ghani said the prisoner swap shows his government's intention to build trust ahead of face-to-face peace talks with the Taliban.

Hong Kong

Surge in violence: The five-month showdown between pro-democracy protesters and police in Hong Kong erupted into widespread violence this week, forcing subway and bus lines, schools, and businesses to be closed for days. Police shot an unarmed protester at close range—leaving the 21-year-old in critical condition—and a man who accused a group of protesters of not being Chinese was doused in flammable liquid and set alight. He is also in critical condition. Riot police beat demonstrators with batons at a rally in the financial district, while office workers sought to help the protesters by giving them water and umbrellas. At the Chinese University of Hong Kong, battles broke out between students and police, who were blamed by activists for the death of a 22-year-old student who fell from a parking garage. Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam called the demonstrators the “enemy of the people.”



Detaining a protester

Gaza

Israel vs. Islamic Jihad: A cross-border battle erupted between the Israeli Defense Forces and militants in the Gaza Strip this week after a top Islamic Jihad leader and his wife were killed by an Israeli airstrike. Baha Abu al-Ata was the Iran-backed militant group's senior commander in northern Gaza, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called him a “ticking time bomb” and “the main instigator of terrorism” from Gaza. Islamic Jihad responded to the missile strike on Abu al-Ata's home by firing hundreds of rockets into Israel, wounding at least one civilian. Israel, in turn, launched airstrikes and fired artillery rounds at targets in Gaza, killing at least 24 people. The IDF said it was hitting only sites controlled by Islamic Jihad and was optimistic that Hamas—the militant group that controls Gaza—would stay out of the fight.

Sydney

Raging wildfires: Australian authorities ordered thousands of people to evacuate and closed hundreds of schools as more than 150 bushfires ripped through New South Wales (NSW) and Queensland this week. Since the official fire season began on Oct. 1, some 3,800 square miles have burned, more than three times the area that burned during all of last season. “They won't have this out for days, weeks, months,” said NSW Rural Fire Service chief Shane Fitzsimmons. Greg Mullins, NSW's former fire chief, blamed climate change for the unprecedented blazes. “Fires are burning in places and at intensities never before experienced,” he said, “rain forests in northern New South Wales, tropical Queensland, and the formerly wet old-growth forests in Tasmania.”



Watching a blaze in NSW

The face of the '70s



Marisa Berenson's career began like a Hollywood fairy tale, said Emine Saner in *The Guardian* (U.K.). Born into privilege, Berenson was taught to dance by Gene Kelly, and when she was 16, her father took her to a ball in New York where she was discovered by the legendary *Vogue* editor Diana Vreeland. On a modeling shoot in India in the late 1960s, she visited the birthplace of transcendental meditation and found George Harrison and Ringo Starr already there. "We were all on the same quest," she says. After a day of meditating, she'd go to Harrison's room and hear him play guitar. When she returned to New York, Luchino Visconti cast her on sight for *Death in Venice*, which led to roles in Bob Fosse's *Cabaret* and Stanley Kubrick's *Barry Lyndon*. But despite this electrifying start on screen, Berenson "put everything on hold" upon marrying rivet tycoon Jim Randall. Their divorce led to a series of setbacks and tragedies in Berenson's life, climaxing when her sister Berry was a passenger on one of the planes that hit the World Trade Center on 9/11. That led her to dive deeper into meditation and spirituality. "I try to look at things on a different level of consciousness, and I connect with my sister all the time," says Berenson, 72. "I never feel alone."

Craig's Bond-like mystique

Daniel Craig's steely persona is perfect for James Bond, said Jonathan Dean in *The Times* (U.K.). Off-screen, however, his permanent scowl and habit of giving paparazzi the finger can make Craig seem like a grouch. Is that fair? "Probably," he says. "I don't do much to dispel it. Some can go on talk shows and tell stories, but I'm just not wired that way." With Craig filming his fifth and final Bond film, it's easy to forget that the British actor, with his theater training and his temperament, isn't a conventional blockbuster star. "I love what I do, but I grew up in an era when, if you were trying to be an artist, you didn't look for approval," he says. "You didn't look for likes. Who am I personally? It has nothing to do with anybody, except for the people in my life." Obviously, he's not fond of social media. "There is a constant looking for approval, and it really jars with me," Craig says. "But I'm a 51-year-old man. Nobody listens to me. I grew up when punk rock was on the scene. You want approval? That's anathema to me." He thinks basing your actions on affirmation is a deeper, crippling problem for people in his line of work. "It doesn't make any sense in art," Craig says. "It's anti-art. It's anti-creativity."



Simon's A-list exes

Carly Simon is an expert on vain men, said David Smith in *The Guardian* (U.K.). Her iconic song "You're So Vain" was informed, in part, by a lifetime of rubbing shoulders with celebrities. The daughter of Simon & Schuster co-founder Richard Simon, the singer was close pals with Jackie Kennedy Onassis and had romances with Warren Beatty, Mick Jagger, Kris Kristofferson, Jack Nicholson, and Cat Stevens, plus a decade-long marriage to James Taylor. Despite moving in such A-list circles, Simon, 74, struggled with anxiety and depression. She started taking Prozac in 1989 to numb her nerves and found similar relief dabbling in cocaine. "It made me lose all of my self-consciousness," she says. "I thought I was so wonderful." But Taylor's use of drugs and alcohol, she contends, contributed to the breakdown of their marriage. "I didn't know how to deal with it," Simon says. Since they split up, she says, Taylor will not speak to her, even though they had two children together. "That's one of the sad things in my life. He just doesn't want to have any contact with me at all." Monogamy, she says, "is very hard." "I've never known a man who wasn't attracted to the adventure of seeing whether he could get a woman to be interested in him."

In the news

■ Cars frontman **Ric Ocasek** cut his estranged wife of 28 years, supermodel **Paulina Porizkova**, out of his will shortly before his Sept. 15 death. "Even if I should die before our divorce is final," the new wave legend, 75, wrote in documents made public last week, "Paulina is not entitled to any elective share" because "she has abandoned me." The couple, who have two sons, announced they were splitting in May 2018 but it was Porizkova, 54, who

discovered Ocasek dead from a heart attack upon bringing him a morning coffee. Filings list Ocasek with \$5 million in assets from "copyrights" but just \$100,000 in "tangible personal property," though he could have millions more tucked away in trusts.

■ A former ABC News producer said last week she was wrongly accused and fired over a leaked video regarding a story the network refused to run three years ago about serial predator Jeffrey Epstein. The video showed anchor **Amy Robach** complaining that she was not allowed to air an interview with one of Epstein's victims, who claimed she'd been forced to perform sex acts with Prince Andrew; Robach was recorded on a hot mic saying she thought ABC feared losing access to Prince William and Kate Middleton. When the video was

leaked to right-wing provocateur James O'Keefe, ABC did an internal investigation and blamed producer **Ashley Bianco**, who'd since moved to CBS. ABC reportedly called her new bosses at CBS and got her fired. "I'll never get a job anywhere else—it's devastating," Bianco said. She said the video was widely circulated at ABC and whoever leaked it "is still inside" the network.

■ Self-described "Christian comedian" **John Crist** canceled his upcoming tour this week after five women accused him of inappropriate sexual behavior. A Netflix special was also shelved after the women said Crist, 35, bartered tickets for sexual favors, drunkenly begs for sex, and pursues married women. Crist, the son of a pastor, admitted to "sexual sins" and causing women "hurt and pain," adding, "I have also hurt the name of Jesus."

Why serial killers kill

There have been 220,000 unsolved murders in the U.S. since 1980. Are serial killers to blame?

How many serial killers are there?

Since 1900, there have been 3,000 *identified* American serial killers who've collectively killed nearly 10,000 people, says Dr. Michael Aamodt, who oversees the Radford University/Florida Gulf Coast University Serial Killer Database. The FBI defines a serial killer as someone who kills two or more people in separate events. About 32 percent of these killers, Aamodt says, did so for enjoyment (thrills, lust, and power); 30 percent for financial reward; 18 percent in anger; 6.3 percent to advance a criminal enterprise; and fewer than 1 percent because a cult put them up to it. Their favorite murder weapon was a gun (42 percent), although 6 percent preferred poison and 2 percent axes. About 52 percent were white, 40 percent black, and 6.7 percent Hispanic. Men outnumber women by a factor of 10. Samuel Little, a transient former boxer and career criminal serving time for two murders, was recently identified by the FBI as the most prolific serial killer in U.S. history, after he confessed to 93 killings between 1970 and 2005.



Samuel Little's many mug shots over years of arrests

What makes a serial killer?

Probably a combination of genetics and experience. Research shows that certain genes can predispose people to violence. (One gene, particularly, the so-called warrior gene, is present in about 30 percent of the population and has been linked to increased aggression.) Many serial killers also experienced childhood trauma or early separation from their mothers. As a consequence of that trauma or separation, scientists believe, they learned to suppress empathy or suffered damage to the areas of the brain that control emotional impulses. Serial killers often are loners who fear all relationships and seek to control, to destroy other people to eliminate the possibility of another humiliating rejection. Prolific arsonist Robert Dale Segee, who is believed to have killed 168 and injured hundreds more by setting a fire at a Connecticut circus in 1944, grew up with a dad who punished him by holding his fingers over a candle flame. Jeffrey Dahmer, who killed, dismembered, and partially ate 17 boys and young men beginning in 1978, said he did so "not because I hated them, but to keep them with me." Gerald Stano, who killed at least 22 women beginning in the 1970s, compared killing people to "stepping on a cockroach." Little said he got sexual pleasure from strangling women with his bare hands, and that by taking their lives, he came to "own" them.

What role does society play?

The teeming, impersonal nature of the modern world is fertile soil for creating serial killers, experts say. Five hundred years ago, the average citizen lived in a small community, traveled rarely if at all, and might have come into contact with

100 "strangers" over the course of his lifetime. By comparison, modern urban dwellers live amid "a sea of strangers," providing the consistent, impersonal interactions and anonymity that are almost preconditions for serial killing. Those who've studied serial killers believe that many are at least partly motivated by the attention and fame that mass media can provide mass murderers. As Dennis Rader, the self-proclaimed "BTK killer" ("Bind them, torture them, kill them"), put it in a letter to a TV station, "How many people do I have to kill before I get a name in the paper or some national attention?" He murdered 10 people during the 1970s and '80s in Kansas.

How do they choose targets?

Serial killers often prey on the most marginalized members of society. Little, for one, managed to evade detection for so long by preying on prostitutes, drug addicts, and homeless women. As he told *New York Times* reporter Jillian Lauren, "I never killed no senators or governors or fancy New York journalists. Nothing like that. I killed you, it'd be all over the news the next day. I stayed in the ghettos." Earlier this year, Bruce McArthur pleaded guilty to murdering eight men in Toronto's Gay Village—many of them immigrants from South Asia or the Middle East who were not "out" to their families. Generally speaking, the majority of victims of serial killers are women (51.4 percent). African-American victims are over-represented (24 percent) relative to their proportion of the U.S. population (13 percent).

How many are active?

Data suggest that American serial killing peaked in the 1980s and has declined since then. The FBI says only 1 percent of murders today are committed by serial killers, and that it's harder for them to go undetected, because of DNA evidence, public cameras, stricter parole laws, and the use of databases. But Michael Arntfield, a retired police detective and author of a dozen books on serial killing, contends that the number of repeat killers active today is more likely between 3,000 and 4,000. He notes that the police "solve rate" for murders dropped from 91 percent in 1965 to only 61.6 percent in 2017, partly because mass killers are more sophisticated. Thomas Hargrove, who has created the nation's largest database of killings, also puts the number of active serial killers at greater than 2,000. "There are more than 222,000 unsolved murders since 1980," he said. "I'll say almost every major American city has multiple serial killers and multiple uncaught serial killers."

The century of mass killings

Many factors are credited with the growth in the number of serial killers during the 20th century. Some have cited the creation of the interstate highway system, which gave predators greater mobility and a vulnerable pool of victims—hitchhikers. Historian Peter Vronsky says the growth of cities and surge in suburbs "led to a lot of transience, a lot of mobility, a lot of broken families, which is where many of these people came from." But Vronsky also says the savagery of World Wars I and II might have contributed as well. He says there was a bump in active serial killers in the years immediately after the First World War and an even greater one after the Second. The wars, he said, were "far more vicious and primitive than we have been able to acknowledge." Vronsky believes traumatized soldiers who had been desensitized to taking lives either became killers themselves or had a hand in raising them.

Scientists underestimated climate change

Eugene Linden
The New York Times

Scientists were wrong about climate change, said Eugene Linden. It's happening far faster, and more catastrophically, than almost anyone predicted. If in 1990 a scientist had suggested that within 25 years a single, massive heat wave would melt enough ice to measurably raise sea levels while baking Paris and Berlin with "Sahara-like temperatures," they "would have been dismissed as alarmist." But that's exactly what happened this summer, when temperatures rose into the 80s above the Arctic Circle, melting 40 billion tons of the Greenland ice sheet. When global warming was first observed, decades ago, scientists assumed that major climatic changes would take a century or more. But as feedback loops kick in, many of the "worst-case scenarios" are already becoming a reality. Seas are warming rapidly, and the Antarctic ice sheets, once believed stable, are crumbling and melting—threatening to inundate coastal cities. The permafrost in northern latitudes is thawing and could release gargantuan amounts of methane and CO₂. With greenhouse gas emissions still climbing, it's possible that "the projected risks of further warming, dire as they are, might still be understated." In the near future, "It is going to get worse. A lot worse."

Making free speech illegal

Jonathan Turley
USA Today

Many liberal Democrats "have fallen out of love with free speech," said Jonathan Turley, and are calling for censorship and even criminalization of opposing views. In a "chilling" opinion column, former *Time* editor Richard Stengel recently called for the U.S. to adopt a "hate speech law," saying the First Amendment has "a design flaw," and "should not protect hateful speech that can cause violence by one group against another." As an example, he cites attacks on Islam, such as burning the Quran. Stengel has plenty of company: U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez recently demanded that Facebook remove any political ad she and her progressive allies deemed "a lie." Some liberals are even calling for the adoption of European-style "hate crime" laws. Consider what that would mean: A German politician was charged with a crime for calling immigrants "scum," and in the U.K., a Baptist minister was briefly jailed for denouncing homosexuality. Despite such censorship, neo-Nazi and extremist parties are on the rise throughout Europe. Banning "bad" speech doesn't work; the best antidote to ugly ideas is good speech. Our basic freedoms should not be debatable.

Haley's clever positioning for 2024

Paul Waldman
The Washington Post

Nikki Haley "is one of the shrewdest operators in the Republican Party," said Paul Waldman. The former South Carolina governor is one of the very few aides who managed to serve in the Trump administration—as ambassador to the United Nations—"while neither destroying her own reputation nor incurring Trump's vindictive wrath." Now Haley has come out with a memoir in which she carefully calibrates her stance on Trump, mixing in proof of her loyalty while portraying herself as "an independent voice unafraid to make her disagreements known." She doesn't think, for example, that it was "good practice" for Trump to ask Ukraine to investigate his political rival, but says it's not impeachable. She expresses "outrage" that then-Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Chief of Staff John Kelly asked her to join them in resisting Trump's more harebrained impulses, in order "to save the country." By conspiring against an elected president, Haley says, Tillerson and Kelly were "undermining the Constitution." With this book, Haley "puts herself right at the sweet spot for a Republican politician with national ambitions"—capable of winning over both Trump's base and his many critics. It already looks like she's running for president in 2024.

Viewpoint

"The United States is undergoing a transition perhaps no rich and stable democracy has ever experienced: Its historically dominant group is on its way to becoming a political minority—and its minority groups are asserting their co-equal rights and interests. It is not 1860 again in the United States. But numerous examples from American history—most notably the antebellum South—offer a cautionary tale about how quickly a robust democracy can weaken when a large section of the population becomes convinced that it cannot continue to win elections, and also that it cannot afford to lose them."

Yoni Appelbaum in *TheAtlantic.com*

It must be true... I read it in the tabloids

■ An exasperated mother in China suffered a heart attack after repeatedly—and unsuccessfully—attempting to help her 9-year-old with his math homework. The woman, surnamed Wang, said, "I explained it to him many times, but he still didn't get it. I was so angry that I could explode." Suffering from shortness of breath and palpitations, she was rushed to the hospital and was treated for a heart attack. "She caught it in time," said Dr. Yang Xiaoxue. "If there had been any delay, she could have suffered from heart failure."

■ Paramedics in Ohio thought the worst after responding to a car accident in which the driver's face, hair, and dress appeared to be covered in blood. Sidney Wolfe, 20, was actually returning from an event costumed as Stephen King's Carrie, and had warned a 911 dispatcher, "I'm in Halloween makeup," after her car hit a deer. But she said medics were still "taken aback" by her gruesome appearance. They all "thought I was dead," said Wolfe, who suffered a minor leg injury. When a police officer drove up and saw her joking with the medics, he angrily said, "Are we going to ignore that this girl is gushing blood and needs medical assistance?"

■ A NASA astronaut co-founded election officials in his home county in Pennsylvania by listing his whereabouts on an absentee ballot application as "International Space Station, low Earth orbit." Ed Allison, a voting official in Lawrence County, said his reaction upon reading Drew Morgan's application was, "What?" But he said he then "started to get calls from NASA," and resolved, "We have to get this done." In the end, Morgan filled out a ballot and electronically transmitted it to Earth. "It certainly is unique," Allison said.



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ITALY

Hounding a Holocaust survivor

Pierluigi Battista
Corriere della Sera

It is to Italy's "infinite shame" that a Holocaust survivor and national treasure now needs a police escort, said Pierluigi Battista. Liliana Segre, 89, is so respected for her teachings about the horrors of Auschwitz that last year she was made senator for life—an honor accorded only to former presidents and the highest-achieving citizens. But ever since Parliament last month approved a proposal by Segre to create a commission to combat anti-Semitism and racism, she has been bombarded with up to 200 death threats and hate messages a day. Some "anti-Semitic rogues" even posted on social media that she belongs in an incinerator. Two police officers now accompany the senator

for life everywhere. Yet physical protection is not enough. "All of Italy must defend Liliana Segre." Members of the League and other right-wing, xenophobic parties that abstained from the vote on the anti-racism commission should step up now and say that, despite their political differences, they support Segre as a Jewish Italian. Instead, League leader Matteo Salvini has downplayed the threats against her, saying he, too, gets death threats. Is he too obtuse to see the difference? His critics hate his politics, while Segre's hate her for who she is: a Jew. "The battle against anti-Semitism is a nonnegotiable value." Anyone who disagrees is not fit to lead Italy.

IRELAND

Porn is warping kids' souls

Fintan O'Toole
The Irish Times

Concern over what access to hardcore porn is doing to our children is not some hysterical moral panic, said Fintan O'Toole. Two boys were sentenced last week for the brutal killing of a teenage girl, the youngest people ever to be convicted of murder in Ireland. "It is an event so terrible that it repels any attempt to understand it—but also an event so terrible that we have to try." The boys were only 13 years old when they lured Ana Kriégel, 14, to an abandoned home outside Dublin and beat her to death last year. One murderer, identified only as Boy A, was also convicted of aggravated sexual assault. Boy A, who was sentenced

to life, had been a prolific consumer of internet porn, and it's hard to believe that this did not play a role. We have created a world in which the developing brains of adolescents are flooded with "extreme, misogynistic, and addictive sexual imagery." What they can find on their smartphones is far worse than the violent video games and movies that parents fretted over in past decades, and it is warping our young people. The government must establish and empower a panel of experts in psychology, technology, and child protection to determine what boundaries must be set. Ana's murder is "a shrill and shocking wake-up call."

Europe: Is it time to look beyond NATO?

Emmanuel Macron believes that "America is cutting Europe loose," said *The Economist* (U.K.). Although the French president "has worked tirelessly to keep good relations with U.S. President Donald Trump," he says that for the first time America has a president who "does not share our idea of the European project." Europe has not yet accepted this new reality. Macron says that NATO, which Trump has frequently attacked as a vehicle for European freeloading, is suffering from "brain death." He notes that coordination in the alliance is collapsing. Trump didn't notify other NATO leaders before he abandoned America's Syrian Kurdish allies—a decision that allowed NATO member Turkey to invade Syria, threatening the West's anti-ISIS campaign. At this point, Macron says, he can't be sure that an attack on one NATO nation would trigger a united response. The French president says Europe must "regain military sovereignty" by developing its own defensive force. At the same time, he wants to reach out to Russia and draw it into a strategic partnership as Europe's neighbor. These ideas are bound to unsettle his NATO partners—but they should hear him out.

Warning lights in Central Europe should be "blinking red," said Maciej Czarnecki in *Gazeta Wyborcza* (Poland). While "nobody in Paris will say it aloud," Macron's desire for rapprochement with Moscow "stems largely from France's close economic ties" with Russia, particularly investments in Russian natural gas by French energy giant Total. Macron claims to believe that Moscow will see partnering with Europe as more beneficial than undermin-



Macron: NATO is suffering from 'brain death.'

ing European democracies. But how can Macron think of building such an alliance while Russia still occupies chunks of Ukraine? And Macron's idea of cooperating with Moscow on cybersecurity is beyond laughable. It's like "inviting the Big Bad Wolf to guard Little Red Riding Hood."

Macron's reckless comments will only foment deeper division among NATO allies, said Marek Swierczynski in *Polityka* (Poland). Feeling insecure, countries that sit close to Russia—such as Poland and the Baltic nations—will

draw closer to the U.S., not to some French-led European force that lacks the tanks, planes, and experience to defend them. The worst outcome will be if Trump reads Macron's comments and endorses an alternative to NATO. I can see the tweet now: "Great! Go off on your own! WE SAVE BILLIONS!!!"

Yet Macron is right, said Christiane Hoffmann in *Der Spiegel* (Germany). He's only echoing what German Chancellor Angela Merkel said two years ago, "that Europe could no longer rely on the U.S. as it had before." That won't change when Trump leaves office, because younger Americans don't remember the Cold War and don't understand "why Americans should die to protect Latvia." Macron is right, too, that we should reach out to Russia and not treat it as Europe's primary enemy: Most threats to Europe now come from instability in the Middle East, something NATO was not designed to counter. It's time for Europe to "stop talking up NATO" and take control of our security.

Bolivia: A nation left leaderless as president flees

Our nation is finally free of Evo Morales, said *El Deber* (Bolivia) in an editorial, but not before he unleashed an “abominable final act” that pitted Bolivian against Bolivian. The leftist leader was forced to resign as president this week after the Organization of American States reported that it had found “clear manipulations” that called into question Morales’ win in last month’s presidential election. Morales initially promised to hold a new vote, but the head of Bolivia’s armed forces instead asked him to step down so the nation could find peace after weeks of protests that had left at least three people dead. He didn’t go quietly. Morales declared that his chief electoral rival, former President Carlos Mesa, had mounted a coup against him, and that suggestion spurred his supporters to violence. As Morales fled to Mexico, which had offered him asylum, militants from his Movement for Socialism (MAS) attacked police stations and journalists’ homes, and looted stores and set fire to buses. Bolivians barricaded themselves in their homes, “fearing for their safety, for their lives, for their property.” Mesa supporters had earlier ransacked and burned the homes of senior MAS leaders.

Morales no longer believes in democracy, said *Página Siete* (Bolivia). During his first three terms, Bolivia’s first indigenous president was hugely popular, thanks to social spending programs that lifted many out of poverty. But he became power mad. After losing a 2016 referendum that would have let him defy constitutional term limits, Morales ignored the will of the people and



Morales arrives in Mexico while protests rage back home.

got a compliant judge to rule that he could run in the next election. When that vote was held last month, early results showed that Morales had a clear lead—but not by the 10 percent age points needed to avoid a runoff. Then the election board mysteriously stopped announcing the vote tally, and 24 hours later “incomprehensibly” declared Morales the outright winner. That “detonated the country’s outrage.” Ever since, Bolivia has been “a cauldron of protests.”

That’s no excuse for what “looks like a coup,” said *La Razón* (Bolivia). And now police and the Public Prosecutor’s Office, “showing a speed and levels of coordination that have always been lacking between the two institutions,” are holding dozens of MAS functionaries “as if they were common criminals.” Worse, after Morales resigned, his vice president and the heads of both legislative chambers also quit, leaving the country without a leader in this crisis.

The key now is to keep the army out of government, said *El País* (Spain). Opposition leader Luis Fernando Camacho has proposed the formation of an interim governing board that would include the military and police high command—a disastrous idea that could spell “the end of democracy.” Instead, Deputy Senate Leader Jeanine Áñez, next in line for the presidency, must be allowed to lead a caretaker government to organize new elections. Bolivia is in a precarious state, and only the “utmost respect for constitutional legality” can save it.

RUSSIA

How China took over tourism

Marina Bocharova
Kommersant

The Chinese are running a “shadow hospitality industry” inside Russia, said Marina Bocharova. Some 1.25 million Chinese visited here last year and they outspent every other nationality, dropping more than \$500 million in the first three months of 2018 alone. But only 40 percent of that money is declared to the Russian state, because most Chinese tourists buy their nesting dolls and other souvenirs from secretive, Chinese-owned shops that are closed to the public. They pay for their tchotchkes using Chinese apps like WeChat Pay and Alipay, so the transactions bypass Russian taxes. The system works like this: Cut-price, unregistered Chinese

guides ferry busloads of Chinese tourists to specific sites in Moscow and St. Petersburg, showing them the ballet, the Hermitage, Red Square, and so on, and crowding out Russian tourists. Then they take them to unlicensed Chinese shops, where the unsuspecting tourists overpay for purportedly Russian jewelry. The shops give the guides a cut of the profits. Some tour operators control their customers’ entire stay in Russia, ensuring that the hotels they sleep in and the restaurants they eat at are also Chinese-owned. Our country ought to profit from China’s interest in it. But how can it, when “there are almost no Russian players in the industry”?

INDIA

Why we should work at night

Prafull Goradia
The Statesman

Indians should be working round the clock, said Prafull Goradia. I don’t mean that each individual should log extra hours—“the intention here is not to whip people into working harder”—but rather that all our offices should run like our factories, on shifts. This is a poor country, with more people than tangible assets, so we need to maximize our use of infrastructure. With shift work, buildings and equipment would no longer stand empty and idle half the day, and there would be employment for many more people. We could start with the courts. Plenty of lawyers want more hours to bill, and they could tackle the backlog of thousands of

cases pending in courts at every level. Some might argue that it’s unnatural to work when it’s dark out, but they do it half the year in Norway and other far-northern nations. And given that climate change is making parts of India unbearably hot, evening shifts may soon be necessary for many occupations. Of course, none of this will be possible without increased security across the country. Police will have to patrol the streets constantly, so that all citizens, “women as well as men,” will feel safe going to work and coming home at night. India will progress when society as a whole gets to work “as hard as possible.”

Noted

■ President Trump has tweeted 11,390 times since taking office, and his rate of tweeting has tripled over the past three months from his 2017 pace. In all, Trump singled himself out for praise 2,026 times and attacked at least 630 people and things in 5,889 tweets. Another 1,710 tweets promoted conspiracy theories; 36 called the news media the “enemy of the people”; and in 16, he referred to himself as everyone’s “favorite” president. *The New York Times*

■ Two of Energy Secretary Rick Perry’s wealthy political supporters won a potentially lucrative 50-year drilling contract in Ukraine about a month after Perry recommended one of them to an aide of President Volodymyr Zelensky. Michael Bleyzer and Alex Cranberg won the contract despite offering the Ukrainian government \$7 million less in fees than the lone competing bid. Associated Press



■ Florida’s \$9 billion orange industry may collapse, as 90 percent

of the state’s orange groves have been infected by bacterium native to China called *huang long bing*, which prevents oranges from ripening.

The Washington Post

■ Doctors have successfully performed a transplant of a penis, scrotum, and lower abdominal wall from a donor to a U.S. soldier who lost his genitals to a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. The patient at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, one of 1,300 U.S. soldiers to have suffered genital injuries in Afghanistan and Iraq, has full urinary and sexual function in the transplanted organ. *The Washington Post*

‘OK Boomer’: The new generational put-down

“Now it’s war,” said Taylor Lorenz in *The New York Times*. Teens and 20-somethings have created a new “endlessly repeated retort to the problem of older people who just don’t get it.” The phrase “OK Boomer” began as an internet meme but has since grown into a global phenomenon decorating shirts, hoodies, bedsheets, pins, stickers, socks, leggings, posters, water bottles, greeting cards, and cellphone cases. When a heckler intruded on New Zealand member of parliament Chlöe Swarbrick’s speech about climate change, the 25-year-old had a glib, yet withering, reply: “OK Boomer.” It’s become a “rallying cry for millions of fed-up kids” disgusted that Baby Boomers are leaving them a world plagued by climate change, mounting debt, unaffordable housing, and income inequality. Anyone over 50 can now expect to hear this dismissive response any time they say “something condescending about young people and the issues that matter to them.”

Give me a break, said Steve Cuozzo in the *New York Post*. Millennials, Gen X, and Gen Z love to whine about how “their complacent elders bequeathed them a rotten America and a rotten world.” But if they actually studied history—you know, the kind that “can’t easily be found on



*Nuff said.

iPhones”—they’d discover that Boomers “were, and remain, the most socially and environmentally conscious generation America ever has ever known.” We Boomers transformed the society our parents left us by championing feminism, civil rights, gay rights, and the environmental movement. Boomers also invented the digital world and the gadgets without which youngsters “couldn’t get out of bed.” As generational sneers go, “OK Boomer” is not very creative, said Tyler Cowen in *Bloomberg.com*. It certainly lacks “the vitality and rebellious spirit” of the 1960s or ’70s, when my generation took to the streets. Indeed, this put-down of older people conveys a certain resigned impotence—a “passive admission as to who is really in charge.”

Actually, the beauty of this phrase is its brevity, said Molly Roberts in *The Washington Post*. With just two words, the young progenitors of “this insolent slogan” convey not only their rage over “collapsing climate, an unequal economy, and endless battles overseas that they didn’t start,” but also that it’s a “waste of keyboard characters” to explain their point of view to self-satisfied Boomers. “They’re saying a lot with very little, and by saying very little they end up saying even more.”

Anonymous: Is a new Trump book credible?

A senior Trump administration official has written an anonymous tell-all book that paints “a chilling portrait of the president as cruel, inept, and a danger to the nation,” said Philip Rucker in *The Washington Post*. In *A Warning*, the author says senior officials were so panicked by Trump’s incompetence and disdain for morality and the law that they considered resigning en masse “to sound a public alarm.” Trump, the author says, asked aides at one meeting, “Can we just get rid of the judges?” At another, he adopted a Hispanic accent to mock female migrants without husbands, calling them “useless.” He “has trouble synthesizing information”; and creates constant chaos, “like a 12-year-old in an air traffic control tower,” randomly pushing buttons. The author—who also wrote an anonymous op-ed in *The New York Times* last year—claims anonymity will keep the discussion centered upon the allegations and not him. But because this public servant is “too cowardly to stand up publicly for the principles” he claims to hold, said John Warner in the *Chicago Tribune*, he only ensures that his revelations will have no real impact.

If Anonymous is a coward, then “he has plenty of company,” said Jack Shafer in *Politico.com*.

Unnamed sources routinely dish to reporters—sometimes, to help the president. And we have good reason to believe in the author’s credibility, since his claims in the original *Times* op-ed have been verified over time. He boasted of an organized “resistance” among senior administration officials to frustrate parts of Trump’s agenda and his “worst inclinations.” Just this week, Trump’s former ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley, claimed in a memoir that former Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and former White House Chief of Staff John Kelly tried to recruit her to disobey and undermine Trump to “save the country.”

Why is the national media taking this book seriously? asked Becket Adams in *Washington Examiner.com*. Maybe the person making these allegations is just “a low-level schlub with delusions of grandeur.” Compare this anonymous author’s behavior with that of acting Ukrainian Ambassador Bill Taylor and Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, said Gary Edson in *The Atlantic.com*. These courageous men have staked their careers on testifying publicly in the House impeachment hearings about this rogue president’s behavior. Anonymous and other officials should take a cue and “simply step forward.”

Scorsese: Marvel movies are 'not cinema'

Martin Scorsese has called out the “crisis in the art of filmmaking,” said **Richard Brody** in *New Yorker .com*. In an interview and then in a newspaper op-ed last week, the legendary director likened Marvel superhero movies to “theme parks,” calling them “not cinema.” Actors and directors who’ve worked on Marvel’s films and fans of the superhero genre objected, arguing that at least some of these films are well-made and well-acted. But Scorsese’s point is that truly great films such as *Taxi Driver*



Scorsese: Where’s the art?

and *Goodfellas* are made by artists—auteurs, if you will—whose vision is felt in every aspect of the process. Directors of formulaic blockbusters like *Avengers: Endgame* are reduced to executing a franchise’s latest installment. There’s nothing wrong with “escapism,” said **Mick LaSalle** in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. But movies about superhuman characters battling cartoonish bad guys while blowing up stuff are little more than “junk food for the spirit.”

Scorsese concedes he “hasn’t even seen the films he’s talking about,” said **Kyle Smith** in *National Review.com*. It shows. Although the climactic fight scenes still tend to be “dutiful and rote,” the best of this genre’s movies are “rich with ideas,” complex emotions, and character development.

At this very moment, *Joker*, a Scorsese-like character study about the descent of Batman’s nemesis into evil and madness, is earning both critical acclaim and \$1 billion in global ticket sales. Scorsese, 76, need not like the genre, said **Anthony Breznican** in *VanityFair .com*, but why did he feel a need to trash films enjoyed by millions? He grew up as a small, sickly boy who was fascinated by prizefighters and gangsters. Why begrudge young people the pleasure of identifying with Captain America, “a scrawny nobody” who becomes “more powerful than he could ever imagine”?

“The real villain isn’t Marvel movies,” said **Michael Cavanaugh** in *The Washington Post*. It’s trends in the movie industry that Scorsese correctly calls “inhospitable to art.” Audiences are increasingly inclined to stay home and watch streaming services, splurging on expensive movie tickets only to see splashy, high-tech blockbusters. For studios and theater owners, the dominance of bankable “sequels, remakes, and existing intellectual properties” is more of “a financial survival tactic” than “an aesthetic choice.” For the arty movies Scorsese cherishes, such as his new film *The Irishman*, “fans will simply wait” until it’s available on Netflix.

The whistleblower: Should his name be revealed?

President Trump and his allies are on a “witch hunt” of their own, said **Sophia Nelson** in *The DailyBeast.com*. Republicans are obsessed with naming and shaming the whistleblower who tipped off Congress about the July 25 phone call in which the president attempted to extort Ukraine into launching investigations that would help his re-election. Federal law protects government employees who expose wrongdoing from retaliation, with whistleblower protections going back to the country’s founding. But Trump has been attacking the whistleblower for weeks, while Sen. Rand Paul has called on the media to “do your job and print his name.” A few conservative publications have printed a name, putting the person’s safety at risk. Since the whistleblower came forward, multiple people with direct knowledge of the call have confirmed his account. Trump’s defenders have no answer for this, so they’re creating a diversionary attack on a public servant.

Don’t fear for the whistleblower, said **Ben Weingarten** in *TheFederalist.com*. “Should he leave public office, he will resign as a Resistance hero,” and he’ll probably get hired by CNN. The only reason Democrats and their media allies are protecting his identity is because it supports Trump’s

argument that the impeachment inquiry is part of the “rolling coup” against him. Unconfirmed reports identify the whistleblower as a CIA analyst, registered Democrat, and card-carrying member of the “deep state.” During the Obama administration, he worked closely with former Vice President Joe Biden as well as former CIA director John Brennan, a bitter foe of Trump’s. The public has a right to know “who set the impeachment fires burning,” said **William McGurn** in *The Wall Street Journal*. This inquiry is illegitimate unless we hear public testimony from the whistleblower and determine his motives.

Actually, the whistleblower’s identity and motives are “irrelevant,” said **Paul Waldman** in *The Washington Post*. He’s like an anonymous tipster who called the police to report a bank robbery in progress. If the police go the bank and find masked bandits holding sacks of cash, they’ll charge the guilty parties. By now, multiple high-level officials have testified about Trump’s efforts “to strong-arm Ukraine into helping his re-election campaign.” Republicans might argue it wasn’t impeachable conduct. “But they can’t claim it didn’t happen, and no amount of shouting about the whistleblower will change that.”

Wit & Wisdom

“We believe that to err is human. To blame it on someone else is politics.”
Former Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, quoted in the Tama, Iowa, News-Herald

“Nothing makes with greater certainty the earth into a hell than man’s wanting to make it his heaven.”
Poet Friedrich Hölderlin, quoted in The New Yorker

“Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down.”
Oprah Winfrey, quoted in the Montreal Gazette

“Grief changes shape, but it never ends.”
Keanu Reeves, quoted in The Guardian (U.K.)

“Nothing so needs reforming as other people’s habits.”
Mark Twain, quoted in The Times (U.K.)

“Don’t ever think you’ve succeeded. Always try to do better—otherwise, drop dead.”
Conductor Arturo Toscanini, quoted in ArtsJournal.com

“Sex: In America an obsession. In other parts of the world a fact.”
Marlene Dietrich, quoted in GoodReads.com

Poll watch

■ **53%** of Americans say the identity of the whistleblower in the Ukraine matter should remain private, while **47%** think the identity should be revealed. **75%** of Republicans think the whistleblower’s motive was to “damage” President Trump, while **68%** of Democrats say it was to protect the country. **52%** of Americans say the Democrats are not handling the impeachment inquiry well, while **56%** think Trump is handling the inquiry poorly.
CBS News

Flying cars: A worldwide race for the skies

The race to introduce the first commercial flying taxi is officially on, said **Adam Satariano** in *The New York Times*. Uber, Google, Boeing, and Porsche are among 20 companies “testing their machines, laying the groundwork for wider production,” and starting to lobby government officials to bring autonomous all-electric vehicles into the skies in just a few years. Lillium, a German startup, has raised more than \$100 million from investors. Its prototype jet—which is still seeking certification from European regulators—looks “less like a *Jetsons*-like flying car than a glider, with a carbon fiber body and 36-foot wingspan.” But it’s purportedly capable of taking off and landing vertically, like a helicopter, and is quiet enough “to land in some areas traditionally off-limits to aircraft”—even midtown Manhattan.

Just one problem: The proliferation of air vehicles over New York *already* represents a “clear and present danger to public safety,” said **Michael McDowell** in *New York* magazine. New York City skies are filled with helicopters, from Uber and smaller companies such as Blade. Since 1983, “there have been at least 30 helicopter crashes in the city.” In other places, unmanned drones are already creating tension in the skies, said **James Leggate** in *FoxBusiness.com*. Earlier this month, fire-department helicopters battling wildfires in Los Angeles had to halt for hours because of hobby drones shooting video of the scene.



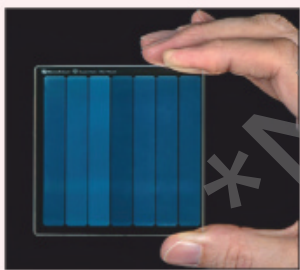
Lillium's pilotless jet, in an artist's rendering

“There are several hurdles before commuters are whizzing through the air,” said **Dalvin Brown** in *USA Today*. Many of the vehicles now being imagined require “magical electric batteries that don’t exist—yet.” The best that anyone can do right now with an electric battery is 20 minutes of flight. An even bigger obstacle is gaining approval from the FAA, which has strict compliance guidelines for small aircraft, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

That’s why the first practical commercial tests of drone taxis are likely to be outside the U.S., said **Jeremy Bogaisky** in *Forbes.com*. “EHang became the first company to receive approval from Chinese aviation regulators to establish a pilot air-taxi service,” in Guangzhou, known for its “crushing traffic congestion.” Though the service hasn’t yet started, EHang is already trying to go public with a \$100 million stock offering. To make a go of it in the U.S., air taxi companies will need much more than that. “Taking a small conventional aircraft through the regulatory forest of safety certification to production can cost \$75 million to \$100 million”—and those are vehicles that regulators already understand. One source of cash: auto companies trying hard to “future-proof” themselves. Ford and General Motors are already “believed to be spending about \$1 billion a year” on research and development for autonomous vehicles.

Innovation of the week

Microsoft has created a way to store data for thousands of years in a square of quartz glass, said **Marc DeAngelis** in *Engadget.com*. The Project Silica glass plates, etched with infrared lasers, remain readable “even after baking them in ovens, dunking them in boiling water, heating them in microwaves, and scratching them with steel wool.” The glass may be an ideal medium for “cold storage” of data that needs to be kept for a long time but rarely accessed. As a proof of concept, Microsoft partnered with Warner Bros.—which, like other studios, has struggled with ways to maintain archival copies of its recordings—to etch a digital version of the original *Superman* film onto a single glass plate. The process took a week, and “the technology still needs to mature” as engineers build a standard device to read and write the data.



Bytes: What’s new in tech

Saudi spies infiltrate Twitter

Two former Twitter employees were charged by the Justice Department with spying on behalf of Saudi Arabia, said **Aruna Viswanatha** and **Betsy Morris** in *The Wall Street Journal*. One, **Ahmad Abouammo**, was arrested in Seattle last week “and is accused of trying to obtain personal information about Saudi Arabia’s critics,” including the email address of one “prominent critic of the Saudi royal family” with more than 1 million Twitter followers. The second, a former website maintenance worker, **Ali Alzabarah**, allegedly used his credentials to access “over 6,000 Twitter accounts in 2015 on behalf of the Saudi government.” A third Saudi national, **Ahmed Almutairi**, was also charged for his role in persuading the men to access the information, paying them with cash and, in at least one case, a watch.

Uber software ignored pedestrians

Uber’s self-driving vehicles weren’t designed to recognize a pedestrian outside a crosswalk, said **Aarian Marshall** and **Alex Davies** in *Wired.com*. Federal investigators found that the software inside the autonomous Uber SUV that killed an Arizona woman last year “did not include a consideration for jaywalking pedestrians.” U.S. regulators are in the midst of a

20-month investigation into the incident. “Despite the fact that the car detected” the woman almost six seconds before striking her, it first “classified her as a vehicle. Then it changed its mind to ‘other,’ then to vehicle again, back to ‘other,’ then to bicycle, then to ‘other’ again, and finally back to bicycle.” It wasn’t until 1.2 seconds before the impact that the system realized “it couldn’t steer around her.” The SUV was traveling 43.5 mph when it hit her.

Finding your consumer score

“As consumers, we all have ‘secret scores’: hidden ratings that determine how long each of us waits on hold when calling a business, whether we can return items at a store, and what type of service we receive,” said **Kashmir Hill** in *The New York Times*. These “e-scores” are often believed to be inaccessible, but I got mine from a company called Sift and “I found it shocking.” It was more than 400 pages long and “contained all the messages I’d ever sent to hosts on Airbnb” and “years of Yelp delivery orders.” Sift is not the only company “in the business of scoring customers” and then selling that data to clients. Five of them—Sift, Zeta Global, Retail Equation, Riskified, and Kustomer—will share the data they have on you if you contact them or fill out an online form.



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How measles hurts the immune system

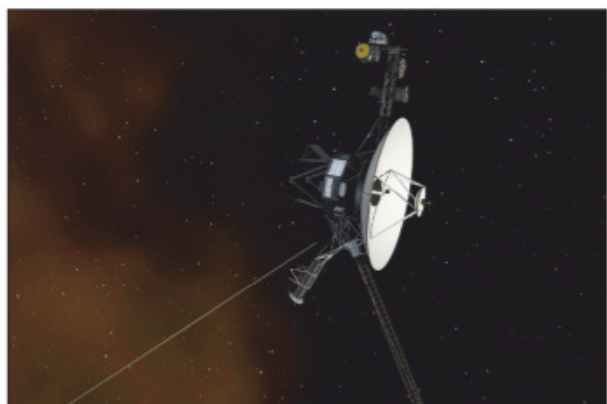
The measles infection is far more harmful than scientists previously thought, reports *NPR.org*. The virus itself can cause a severe and sometimes fatal illness, but two new studies suggest it can also wipe out patients' immune systems—leaving them vulnerable to dangerous infections such as flu and pneumonia for months and possibly years. For the studies, researchers examined blood samples from 77 children in the Netherlands who went unvaccinated for religious reasons. The samples were taken before and after the kids contracted the disease during a 2013 outbreak. They found that measles wiped

out 11 percent to 73 percent of the children's antibodies, which provide protection against an array of viruses and bacteria. (Similar tests in vaccinated children found no loss of antibodies.) Scientists call this effect "immune amnesia." The immune system essentially forgets what it needs to do to fight colds, flu, stomach bugs, and other illnesses, including illnesses for which the person has been vaccinated. "Measles is much more than a rash," says Harvard Medical School's Michael Mina, who led one of the studies. "It's got these very long-term, stealth-like detrimental effects that are extraordinarily



Measles leaves kids vulnerable to other diseases.

difficult to measure." Researchers note that the introduction of the measles vaccine in the 1960s was followed by a sharp decline in deaths from other childhood diseases—a shift that could reverse if vaccination rates continue to decline.



The probe is now outside the solar system.

Voyager 2's interstellar report

After a 10 billion-mile journey lasting 42 years, Voyager 2 is now in interstellar space. The NASA probe is the second ever to travel beyond the heliosphere—the vast bubble of supersonic charged particles that shoot out from the sun—having crossed the threshold six years after its twin, Voyager 1. Data sent back from those crossings has provided scientists with the most detailed look yet at the outer limits of our solar system. One big finding is that the heliosphere appears to have a spherical shape; some models had suggested it would be shaped more like a windsock, with a tail floating behind as it raced through the galaxy. The data also expands our understanding of the "heliosheath"—the outer region of the heliosphere where charged particles from the sun pile up against interstellar wind coming the other way. Contrary to some scientific belief, the heliosphere's solar wind doesn't gradually fade away—the interstellar boundary is marked by a sudden drop in temperature and a sharp increase in density. Designed to last only four years, the twin Voyager spacecraft are expected to keep functioning for another five. "When the two Voyagers were launched, the space age was only 20 years old," project scientist Edward Stone tells *The New York Times*. "It was hard to know at that time that anything could last over 40 years."

Seaweed for Alzheimer's?

Chinese regulators have conditionally approved a new seaweed-based treatment for Alzheimer's—a potential breakthrough that has been greeted with both enthusiasm and caution. In a clinical trial involving 818 people, the drug, Oligomannate, improved cognitive function in patients with mild to moderate Alzheimer's. The researchers say the benefits were apparent within just four weeks of starting treatment and endured throughout the 36-week trial. The drug's approval means it can go on sale in China while further trials are carried out there, but clinical trials in the U.S. and Europe aren't scheduled to start until 2020. Its developers say a sugar in seaweed helps suppress bacteria in the gut that can cause degeneration and inflammation of the brain. But many scientists in the U.S. and Europe remain skeptical, noting that trials in the West typically last longer and are larger. "It's good to see that drug regulators in China are prioritizing emerging treatments for Alzheimer's," Carol Routledge, a British Alzheimer's researcher, tells *Scientific American*. "But we do still need to see more evidence that this drug is safe and effective."

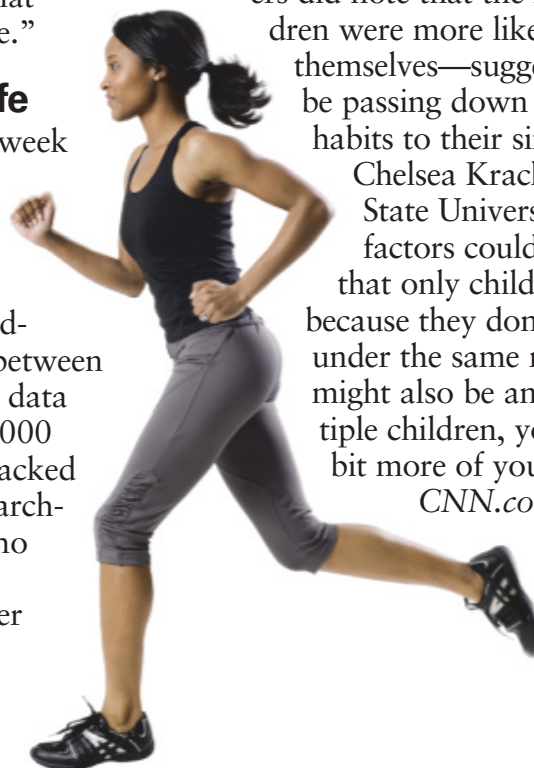
Running for a long life

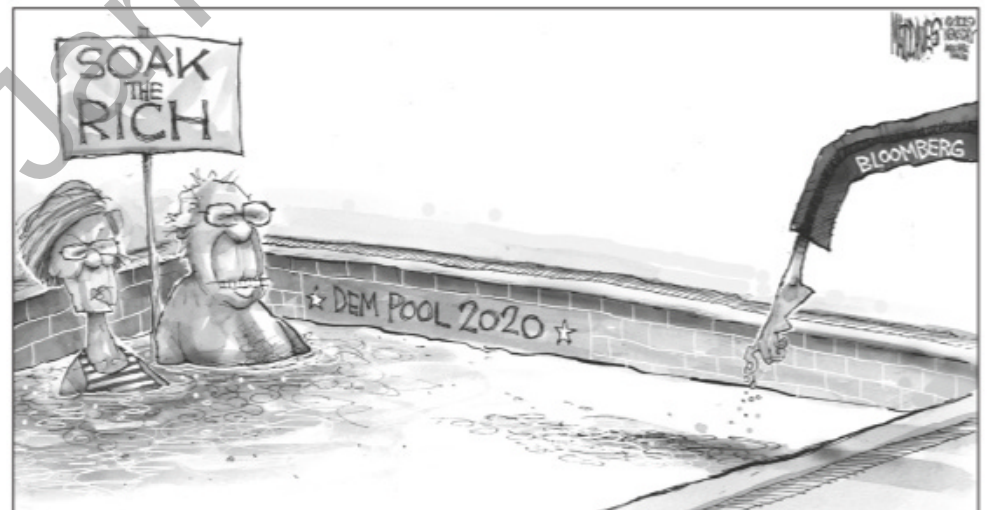
Going for a run just once a week could be enough to significantly cut your risk of early death. Researchers at Victoria University in Melbourne looked at 14 studies that examined the links between running and mortality. That data set included more than 230,000 people, whose health was tracked for up to 35 years. The researchers found that the people who did any running at all were 27 percent less likely to suffer a premature death. Runners

had a 30 percent lower risk of dying from cardiovascular problems, and a 23 percent reduced risk of dying from cancer. More surprisingly, those who ran longer distances or at a faster pace didn't see their risk decline any further—just 50 minutes of jogging a week was enough. Running has long been linked with an array of health benefits, in particular reductions in blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and weight. "If you are physically inactive and don't have much time on your hands for exercise," lead author Zeljko Pedisic tells *ABCNews.com*, "running might just be the right activity for you."

Health scare of the week Only children and obesity

Only children are seven times more likely to be obese than those with siblings, new research suggests. In a small study, researchers examined the eating habits and weight of what they called "singletons." They found that these children tended to have less healthy eating and drinking habits than kids in larger families. The study didn't prove cause and effect. But the researchers did note that the mothers of only children were more likely to be overweight themselves—suggesting that they may be passing down their poor dietary habits to their singletons. Lead author Chelsea Kracht, from Louisiana State University, says that biological factors could also be in play, and that only children may be less active because they don't have a playmate under the same roof. Meal planning might also be an influence. "With multiple children, you're scheduling a little bit more of your meals," Kracht tells *CNN.com*. "So we're going to have more at-home meals. We're probably going to have less fast food."





Review of reviews: Books

Book of the week

**The Great Pretender:
The Undercover Mission
That Changed Our
Understanding of Madness**

by Susannah Cahalan (Grand Central, \$28)

In 1973, psychologist David Rosenhan published a paper that “shook the world of psychiatry to its core,” said Michael Schaub in *NPR.org*. Rosenhan had assembled eight accounts of healthy subjects who had presented themselves at mental hospitals throughout the country and been held for days and even weeks. The resulting uproar led to the closing of many mental institutions, and when journalist Susannah Cahalan learned of the episode years later, she was inclined to trust the famous exposé. But Cahalan, who is both a dogged reporter and an “absolutely incredible” writer, discovered as she examined the details that little of Rosenhan’s study could be backed up. Because of a misdiagnosis in her own past, Cahalan is passionate about this story, but she’s channeled her outrage into a book that “reads, in parts, like a suspense novel”

*Did a scam destroy our mental health system?*

while urging serious reform in how we treat the mentally ill.

At first, Cahalan’s research went smoothly, said Emily Eakin in *The New York Times*. Rosenhan, who died in 2012, had left his files, including a 200-page incomplete manuscript, with a colleague. But troubling discrepancies in Rosenhan’s work quickly emerged. His study said that each pseudo-patient had complained of a single symptom: hearing voices that said “hollow,” “empty,” and “thud.” But his own medical file indicated that when he was admitted

into a suburban Philadelphia mental hospital, he’d reported a series of more troubling symptoms. Some statistics in the study had no backup reporting. And most worryingly, she was able to identify two other study participants: one whose positive experience was excluded and another whose experience was more positive than Rosenhan reported. Cahalan concludes it’s possible that all six other subjects were invented.

“Even so, the accuracy of Rosenhan’s study comes to matter less than its consequences,” said Naina Bajekal in *Time*. In the wake of its alarmist claims and the resulting shuttering of mental hospitals, the number of patients in such institutions fell by half nationwide within a decade. Cahalan writes that today the U.S. has 95,000 fewer beds for mental patients than are needed, and that many of our mentally ill have wound up in prisons. Though her descriptions of 19th-century asylums are disturbing, “Today, it’s worse,” she writes. “We don’t even pretend the places we’re putting sick people aren’t hellholes.” Had Rosenhan never published his study, perhaps our mental health system would be both more effective and more humane.

Novel of the week

Nothing to See Here

by Kevin Wilson

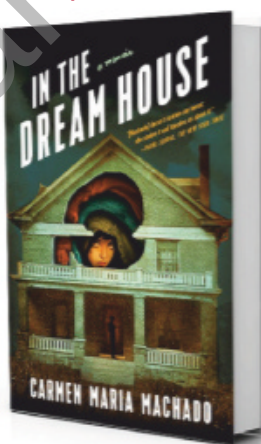
(Ecco, \$27)

“To love a child is to get burned from time to time,” said Ron Charles in *The Washington Post*. But the combustibility of the 10-year-old twins in Kevin Wilson’s wonderful third novel is not just metaphorical. His narrator, a broke 28-year-old, has been hired by an old friend from prep school, now married to a Tennessee senator nominated to be U.S. secretary of state, to look after the couple’s grade-schoolers. The catch? The kids burst into flames when upset—never hurting themselves but scorching their surroundings. Despite its fantastical premise, said Jenny Shank in the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*, *Nothing to See Here* “conveys more emotional truth about life with a difficult kid than any parenting guides.” It also satirizes the rich for their habit of throwing money at any problem—even at the expense of their own offspring. “In this funny and affecting novel,” Wilson has introduced one outlandish element to help us see who we really are.

In the Dream House: A Memoir

by Carmen Maria Machado

(Graywolf, \$26)



“Welcome to the House of Machado; enjoy the view as the floor gives way,” said Parul Sehgal in *The New York Times*.

In her new memoir, the “blazingly talented” Carmen Maria Machado puts her own twist on the haunted-house trope—and many others—while examining from all angles a same-sex relationship that turned abusive. The book is “a hive of frenetic experimentation, tactics, and tricks,” with each of its chapters taking a different genre form: horror story, sci-fi, even stoner comedy. It’s as if Machado were “holding a ring of keys, trying each of them in turn to unlock a resistant story.”

Don’t let the experimentation scare you away, said Julia Klein in *The Boston Globe*. “This is a stunning book, both deeply felt and elegantly written.” The title refers, at the simplest level, to a pretty house in Bloomington, Ind., that Machado shared

several years ago with a charismatic fellow creative writing student shortly after they met and fell in love. But in this fairy tale, “the idyllic soon turns ugly.” Machado’s lover begins displaying flashes of anger and possessiveness, erupting in profanity and throwing things. She belittles and plays mind games with the author. At one point, Machado barricades herself in the bathroom as her pursuer pounds the door.

Machado, who escaped the relationship in May 2012, doesn’t pull off all of the maneuvers she tries here, said Katy Waldman in *NewYorker.com*. In one chapter, she muses on famous Disney villainesses while imagining that her memoir will be attacked for demonizing a gay woman. But “Machado is taking huge formal risks,” and more often than not she triumphs. Few stories of queer domestic abuse exist, she writes, both because of historic constraints and because of a reluctance in the LGBTQ community to share unflattering portraits. In order to make sense of what happened to her, Machado must invent ways to describe it. Her shifting perspectives and approaches “achieve a full, strange representation of the subject.” This is a book that recognizes “we are more than what happens to us; we are also the scripts we use to imagine ourselves.”

WHAT IS AVAXHOME?

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Cheap constant access to piping hot media

Protect your downloadings from Big brother

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18 years of seamless operation and our users' satisfaction

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Best books...chosen by Daniel José Older

Daniel José Older's *The Book of Lost Saints*, a magic-realist epic about a Cuban-American family, is his first non-Y.A. novel. Below, the prize-winning author of *Shadowshaper* touts six books whose protagonists are "trapped in the in-between."



Freshwater by Akwaeke Emezi (2018). Emezi's debut is a gorgeous and triumphant novel about surviving, healing, finding the self, and transcendence. The prose itself feels like a character, it's so alive. And the format—this is a story told by the various Igbo spirits that inhabit our half-Nigerian protagonist—is everything I've ever wanted from a book.

The Ballad of Black Tom by Victor LaValle (2016). This is one of my favorite examples of a novel that critically remixes the canon. LaValle takes one of H.P. Lovecraft's most horrific and racist tales—1924's "The Horror at Red Hook"—and injects it with a heart and new life by adding the perspective of a new character, a young black hustler named Tommy Tester. A tale about an occult presence in an immigrant New York City neighborhood becomes something rebellious and ferocious—a masterpiece.

Snow by Orhan Pamuk (2002). This is a haunting novel about a haunted man. Ka, a poet, lives in a small Turkish town near the Armenian border where a local college's mandate for women to remove their head scarves has led to

an epidemic of suicides. *Snow* is a thriller that feels deeply intimate and melancholy even when it soars.

The Famished Road by Ben Okri (1991). Okri's sprawling, Booker Prize-winning epic about a kid caught between life and death in Nigeria is unruly and brilliant in all the right ways, with prose that seems to run and shimmy off the page.

Season of Migration to the North by Tayeb Salih (1966). This is a creepy, beautiful, complex story of longing and loss from one of Sudan's pre-eminent writers, centered on one man's confession to another. Stirring prose and a quiet musicality bring the novel's eerie mystery to life.

Of Water and the Spirit: Ritual, Magic and Initiation in the Life of an African Shaman by Malidoma Patrice Somé (1994). Somé was abducted as a child by Jesuits, and in this memoir he gives us the story of his return to his village in Burkina Faso as an adult, and the spiritual journey of his return to himself. This is a gorgeous, deeply necessary book.

Author of the week

Ken Follett

When Notre-Dame reopens, count Ken Follett among the many artisans who erected it, said **Alex Green** in *The Independent* (U.K.). The best-selling British author cried last April 15 when he turned on his television to see



Paris' great cathedral in flames. And when the main structure survived the blaze, he quickly committed to

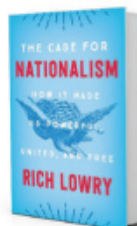
help raise restoration funds by writing a tribute to the 1163 Gothic wonder. Follett, 70, had been an expert the media turned to when the blaze struck because his best-known book, *Pillars of the Earth*, is possibly the world's best-selling book about a cathedral. To write that 1989 historical novel, Follett had climbed into the rafters of a few medieval cathedrals, so he knew the attic as a rare weakness. Still, the collapse of Notre-Dame's roof shocked him. "In the life of every boy there is a painful moment when he realizes that his father is not all-powerful and invulnerable," he says. "The fall of the spire made me think of that moment."

Follett required only a week to produce *Notre-Dame*, an 80-page tribute and current best-seller, said **Gregory McNamee** in *Kirkus Reviews*. "It was written," he says, "in the heat of the moment." His work earned him a June tour of the cathedral, during which he learned that because today's trees aren't robust enough to support the vast roof, the new beams will consist of steel or even plastic. "It will not be visible," he says, "so in a sense it doesn't really matter." He came away optimistic, though, that the French might just complete the restoration as soon as 2024, in time for the Paris Olympics. "If anyone can do it," he says, "they can."

Also of interest...in counterintuitive ideas

The Case for Nationalism

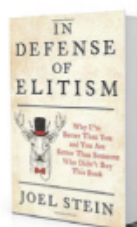
by Rich Lowry (Broadside, \$27)



Consider this book "part of a larger effort on the right to create an after-the-fact framework for Trumpism," said Carlos Lozada in *The Washington Post*. In "a selective reading of history," Rich Lowry, editor of the *National Review*, argues that the ideals of 1776 did less to shape the American project than what he calls "the religio-cultural attributes" of the land's European settlers. The rest is simply facile. In this book, "nationalism cannot be bad, because Lowry has defined it as good."

In Defense of Elitism

by Joel Stein (Grand Central, \$28)



Don't let the title fool you, said Alec Dent in the *Washington Free Beacon*. Instead of looking down on his fellow Americans from a snob's redoubt, former *Time* columnist Joel Stein has written "one of the most nuanced and introspective takes on populism" since the 2016 election. Not that he stops with what he learned by listening to Trump supporters in northern Texas. He critiques populism for putting too much trust in primal instincts, but also helps his fellow blue staters understand its appeal.

Females

by Andrea Long Chu (Verso, \$13)



"Everyone is female," writes Andrea Long Chu, "and everyone hates it." The essayist, a young trans woman who's among our most original thinkers on gender, is clearly "less interested in exhaustive explanation than in the flash of insight produced by a well-thrown knife," said Julian Lucas in *Harper's*. But in this slim book, she finds common ground among Freud, anti-porn feminists, and incels by amusingly showing how they—and all of us—feminize ourselves by accommodating to the desires of others.

Self-Portrait in Black and White

by Thomas Chatterton Williams (Norton, \$26)



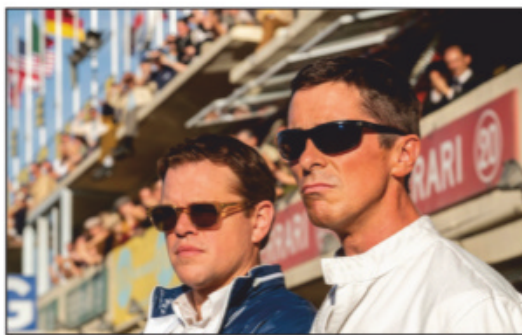
Thomas Chatterton Williams has a funny way of advocating a post-racial world, said Cinque Henderson in the *Los Angeles Review of Books*. Here, the U.S.-born, Paris-based scholar describes how the birth of his blond, blue-eyed daughter taught him to rethink his own black self-identification. We have an obsession with race, he says, and should eagerly move past it, including through interracial marriage. But wait: "Can someone who has written his only two books on race really claim to have overcome it?"

Ford v FerrariDirected by
James Mangold

(PG-13)

A 1966 race pushes
two friends to their limit.

Christian Bale and Matt Damon's thrilling new auto-racing adventure "practically begs to be called 'the kind of movie people don't make anymore,'" said K. Austin Collins in *VanityFair.com*. Based on a real-life 1966 showdown, it delivers every component of an old-Hollywood formula: "taking a big story, giving it a fair budget, casting genuine stars in roles that don't require capes, and simply entertaining the s--- out of us." Damon plays ex-racer Carroll Shelby, who is hired by stodgy Ford Motors to build a car that can beat a Ferrari at Le Mans. When Shelby picks hotheaded



Damon and Bale: Old-time action heroes

Ken Miles as his driver and engineer, Bale steps in and proves "more than game." Sure, it's all formulaic—but with a few "fascinating upgrades," said David Edelstein in *NYMag.com*. One of the canniest is highlighting the gap between the suits and the working-class adrenaline junkies. Another is making the gearheads incredibly smart—"as versed in physics as any *Star Trek* android." Though the racing action is gripping, it'd be a mistake to think *Ford v Ferrari* is for car buffs only, said Anthony Lane in *The New Yorker*. "It's a film about pride—and the craziness that flares up whenever pride gets hurt."

WavesDirected by
Trey Edward Shults

(R)

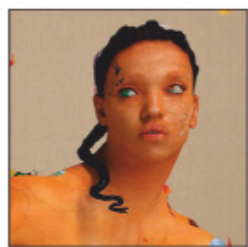
A family tries to rebound
from tragedy.

"*Waves* is the kind of movie that punches you in the gut and then slashes your Achilles as you reach for your stomach," said Sean Fennessey in *TheRinger.com*. "Then, as you fall, it catches you in its arms." A stunning drama about an upper-middle-class black family in Florida, it focuses initially on an 18-year-old who's pushed by his father (a "hulking, stentorian" Sterling K. Brown) to excel at school and on the wrestling mat. The young man succeeds—until a shoulder injury sidelines him and triggers a downward spiral. The movie "begins with such confidence that I found



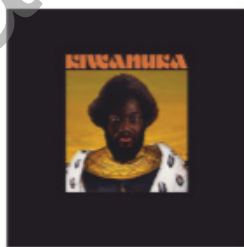
Harrison endures Brown's coaching.

myself gripped to the seat," said Benjamin Lee in *TheGuardian.com*. Once Kelvin Harrison Jr.'s Tyler hits bottom, though, the movie changes focus suddenly to his quiet sister. And though she's played by an "extremely engaging" Taylor Russell, the tonal shift is so abrupt that the film "never really recovers." Actually, it's that "grace-filled" second act that sets *Waves* apart, said Alissa Wilkinson in *Vox.com*. It reminds us how radical forgiveness can be because sometimes we are granted it even when we don't deserve it. This "sounds like hyperbole, but I mean it: You walk out with a weary, cleansed soul."

FKA Twigs
Magdalene

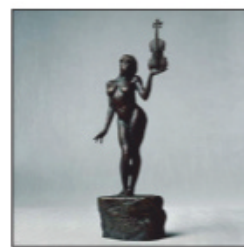
"FKA Twigs has never been weirder; she's also never been catchier," said Spencer Kornhaber in *TheAtlantic.com*. On her second full-length album and first in five years, the 31-year-old

British pop avant-gardist again "sings in highly mannered trills reminiscent of opera" against a musical backdrop that "warps the syncopated grooves, rap flows, and electronic jolts of modern pop." But on a record that acts out a struggle to love, lose, and recover in the public eye and that often "pushes to new extremities of silence, slowness, and experimentalism," she also works in show tune-worthy melodies and a strong closing piano ballad. "The album often feels like a desperate prayer, flung toward the sky," said Madison Vain in *Esquire.com*. "At its darkest, it's an entrancing testimony to the overwhelming powers of anger ('Fallen Alien'), loneliness ('Mirrored Heart'), and self-doubt ('Cellophane')." It also maps a twisting path to emancipation from her past, though, and when the elements of her idiosyncratic music click, "the results aren't just holy, they're downright heavenly."

Michael Kiwanuka
Kiwanuka

"It's been thrilling to watch Michael Kiwanuka blossom," said Greg Kot in the *Chicago Tribune*. The British singer-songwriter of Ugandan heritage became an unlikely star

when HBO's *Big Little Lies* used his symphonic "Cold Little Heart" as its mournful theme song. That hit came from Kiwanuka's sophomore effort, *Love & Hate*, which stretched his melancholy mix of folk and soul to create "wide-screen epics dusted with strings and acid-rock guitar solos." Kiwanuka's third album further expands the sound while the singer grapples with doubts about himself and the world. "His voice remains plaintive, understated, deeply textured, but there's a resolve that wasn't as evident on his earlier work." If you're not in the mood for the "languorous introspection" of "Solid Ground," skip straight to "Hard to Say Goodbye" for "1960s-style orchestral cinematics," said Kitty Empire in *The Observer* (U.K.). The album's "borderline psychedelic shimmer" is its greatest strength; its only weakness is that Kiwanuka "could have been even braver."

Sudan Archives
Athena

Sudan Archives "has liberated herself from any preset expectations," said Allison Hussey in *Pitchfork.com*. On two EPs that she's released in the past two years, the Cincinnati-raised, L.A.-based singer and violinist had used a mix of hip-hop beats, lilting R&B melodies, and fiddling inspired by Sudanese and Ghanaian traditions to create such earworm singles as "Come Meh Way" and "Nont for Sale." But now the same tool kit is being used to create music that's deeper, broader, and stranger. "The bass scoops lower, the grooves get funkier," and the artist's layered violin tracks "give the illusion of a full orchestra." All in all, "it's a rare thrill to hear an artist making leaps and bounds in such a short span of time." Though the fiddle parts are often at least as infectious as the cooing vocals, the two swirl together on "Confessions," the album's lead single, said Ryan Leas in *Stereogum.com*. "These songs will weave their way into your mind with the same elusive rhythms of a trickling river or dancing flames."

Movies on TV

Monday, Nov. 18

Imperium

Daniel Radcliffe plays an FBI agent who goes undercover to infiltrate a group of white supremacists. (2016) 8 p.m., the Movie Channel

Tuesday, Nov. 19

Wayne's World

Mike Myers and Dana Carvey were surprisingly excellent as rock-obsessed dropouts Wayne and Garth in the big-screen version of their popular *Saturday Night Live* skit. (1992) 3:40 p.m., Showtime

Wednesday, Nov. 20

McCabe & Mrs. Miller

Warren Beatty and Julie Christie co-star in Robert Altman's revisionist Western about a gambler and a brothel madam seeking to save their town from takeover by a mining firm. (1971) 8 p.m., TCM

Thursday, Nov. 21

The Odd Couple

Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau create buddy-comedy magic as uptight Felix Unger and slovenly Oscar Madison, divorced friends who become mismatched roommates. (1968) 8 p.m., Movieplex

Friday, Nov. 22

Nocturnal Animals

In a prize-winning neo-noir directed by fashion designer Tom Ford, Amy Adams plays a woman consumed by a disturbing novel manuscript written by her ex-husband. Jake Gyllenhaal co-stars. (2016) 11:20 p.m., Cinemax

Saturday, Nov. 23

Us

In Jordan Peele's second horror feature, an American family is confronted by its murderous doppelgängers. (2019) 8 p.m., HBO

Sunday, Nov. 24

Roman Holiday

Gregory Peck and Audrey Hepburn make a delightful pair in the classic rom-com about a reporter and a princess who enjoy an Italian fling. (1953) 8 p.m., TCM

The Week's guide to what's worth watching

Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops

In Texas, people don't often call in the police when they need an empathetic ear. But Ernie Stevens and Joe Smarro of the San Antonio Police Department aren't typical patrol partners: They're two of a handful of officers in the city who've been specially trained to respond to various 911 calls as mental health crises, bringing instant counseling to scenarios that previously invited handcuffs and drawn guns. This dramatic film-festival documentary captures how difficult but rewarding the work can be. *Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 9 p.m., HBO*

Bikram: Yogi, Guru, Predator

The continued popularity of Bikram yoga—aka hot yoga—might not survive the airing of this damning documentary. The practice's founder, Bikram Choudhury, has so far escaped arrest stemming from sexual assault charges and unpaid legal fees by fleeing the U.S., but this film tells the complete story of Choudhury's rise and fall, giving voice to multiple victims. Former students describe a cultlike environment, ruled over by a yogi often dressed in nothing but a Speedo and a Rolex and as capable of bending minds as bodies. *Available for streaming Wednesday, Nov. 20, Netflix*

2019 Democratic Presidential Debate

Ten Democratic hopefuls are expected to take the stage in Atlanta for the party's latest presidential two-hour talkfest. With Iowa's early-February caucuses finally approaching, Joe Biden, Bernie Sanders, and Elizabeth Warren have separated from the pack without sending many of the stragglers home. Expect the leaders' policies to get the longest airings. *Wednesday, Nov. 20, at 9 p.m., MSNBC*

The Feed

Stretch a decent *Black Mirror* premise into a full series and the result might look like this show based on a recent dystopian novel by Nick Clark Windo. In the near future, most everyone has stopped speaking because they share their thoughts and experiences instantly via brain implants connected to a social media network known as the Feed. But when the Feed goes



Out on the streets with Ernie & Joe

down, following a political assassination, a couple and their infant child find themselves fighting for survival in a world gone mad. *Available for streaming Friday, Nov. 22, Amazon Prime*

Ready for War

Since its founding, America has offered a shortcut to citizenship to immigrants who fight in its wars. But today, immigrant veterans who commit nonviolent crimes can be deported, despite having served in the U.S. military, and a countless number have been dumped in Mexican border towns to fend for themselves. This documentary follows three such U.S. vets, including one who has accepted lucrative employment as a hitman for a drug cartel. *Friday, Nov. 22, at 9 p.m., Showtime*

Other highlights

Mad About You

Paul Reiser and Helen Hunt reunite for a limited-series sequel to their hit 1990s sitcom about an enviable modern marriage. *Available for streaming Wednesday, Nov. 20, Spectrum*

The Accident

In this dramatic four-part British import, parents seek justice after several teenagers in a small Welsh town are killed in an explosion. *Available for streaming Friday, Nov. 22, Hulu*

2019 American Music Awards

Taylor Swift will be celebrated as the artist of the decade on a night that will also feature performances by Lizzo, Selena Gomez, Billie Eilish, and Dua Lipa. *Sunday, Nov. 24, at 8 p.m., ABC*



Steinfeld's Emily, with Wiz Khalifa as Death

Show of the week

Dickinson

Was it Emily Dickinson or Selena Gomez who wrote "The heart wants what it wants"? That the answer is both feels entirely relevant to why this series has sneakily emerged as the best original offering on Apple's two-week-old streaming service. Sure, reimagining the reclusive 19th-century poet as a Gen Z-style queer feminist hero who takes opium at a house party and, yes, twerks, is a bit gimmicky. But the series' mannered mashup of epochs can win you over with its clever writing, lush imagery, and (we'll say it) transcendent performance from Hailee Steinfeld. *Currently streaming on AppleTV+*

LEISURE

Food & Drink

A Texas turkey: Bring on the chiles and warm pecan sauce

The holiday dish below is adapted from a remarkable 1929 cookbook, said Toni Tipton-Martin in *Jubilee: Recipes From Two Centuries of African-American Cooking* (Clarkson Potter). The author, Artaway Fillmore, developed the book's recipes while serving as chef at a hotel in Lubbock, Texas. "What draws me to Fillmore's fine-dining style? Flavors that are culturally and regionally familiar." I recommend pairing this turkey with a side of cornbread dressing.

Recipe of the week Roast turkey with chile-pecan sauce

To make chile rub:

In a small bowl, combine 2 tbsp paprika; 1 tbsp each chile powder, ground cumin, brown sugar, salt, and black pepper; and 1½ tsp each chipotle chile powder, dried oregano, garlic powder, and onion powder.

For turkey and stock:

1 (10–12 lb) turkey
2 small onions, quartered
3 celery stalks with leaves
5 large garlic cloves
1 small apple, cored and quartered
2 carrots, halved lengthwise
¼ cup vegetable oil or melted butter

For chile-pecan sauce:



Rubbed, stuffed, and ready for the oven

2 tbsp minced onion
2 tsp minced garlic
1 small Scotch bonnet pepper, minced
1 tbsp chile powder
1 tsp ground cumin
½ cup chopped toasted pecans

Preheat oven to 325. Remove giblets and neck from turkey. In a large saucepan, combine 3 cups water with the giblets and neck, plus 1 quartered onion, 1 quartered stalk celery, 1 crushed garlic clove, ½ tsp salt, and ¼ tsp black pepper. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to low, cover, and simmer while turkey roasts. Add water as needed to maintain liquid level.

Tuck wings under turkey, then use string to tie wings and legs close to body. Place the bird, breast side up, in a roasting pan. Insert a meat thermometer into lower part of thigh without touching the bone. Fill neck and body cavity with apple, carrots, 1 quartered onion, 4 smashed garlic cloves, and 2 celery stalks, then use skewers to close body cavity. Rub turkey all over with oil or butter, then with chile rub. Tent turkey with foil and roast, basting with pan juices every 30 minutes, until internal temperature reaches 180, 3 to 3½ hours. During final 30 minutes, remove foil and cease basting, so skin will brown. Transfer turkey to a platter; reserve drippings.

To make sauce: Strain stock through a colander and reserve. Pour off and discard all but 2 tbsp of turkey pan drippings, then place pan over medium-high heat. Add minced onion, garlic, and Scotch pepper and sauté until softened, about 1 minute. Sprinkle in chile powder and cumin; sauté 2 minutes. Gradually whisk reserved stock into pan in a slow, steady stream, scraping up brown bits. Cook until sauce is reduced by a third, about 20 minutes. Stir in pecans and season to taste with salt and pepper.

Carve and present the turkey with the sauce on the side. Serves 10 to 12.

Wine: Thanksgiving saviors

Picking wines for the Thanksgiving table is challenging enough, however perfect the cooking, said Karla Alindahao in *Forbes.com*. But what if the turkey is ultradry—as it so often is? I asked sommelier Luke Sullivan for suggestions, and the Australian-born, New York City-based wine prodigy offered two unusual ideas:

2016 Etienne Dupont Cidre Bouché Brut de Normandie (\$16). This French sparkling cider "will have enough sweetness," says Sullivan, "to keep everyone's minds off the dry turkey."
2017 Kracher Cuvée Auslese (\$25 for 375 ml). This dessert wine from Burgenland, Austria, is sweet as well. But it also has enough acidity—as well as notes of quince and peach—to be enjoyed throughout a long meal. Sullivan also favors fizzy dry red **lambruscos** for this particular holiday, as does Wanda Mann, creator of a wine-travel website. "A nice chilled wine," she says, "can save the day and the meal."



The D.C. melting pot: Three reasons to jump into the Swamp

Allow me to join the growing chorus of critics who finally are recognizing Washington, D.C., as a great food city, said Brett Anderson in *The New York Times*. Though the nation's capital has a reputation for catering to the bland tastes of power brokers, "its personality lies in its multiculturalism." Because D.C. has always attracted both wealth and immigrants, it is "particularly hospitable to new voices and innovations." Below, three tone-setters.

Poca Madre The concept is upscale Mexican, but chef Victor Albisu brings a "wide-angle vision" of Latin American cooking to bear at his year-old restaurant in Chinatown. Albisu is the son of a Cuban father and Peruvian mother, and you might detect those influences in Poca Madre's whole duck, cooked *al pastor*, or in his deft use of chiles, citrus, and mole to draw out the flavors of seafood. 777 I St. NW, (202) 838-5300

Seven Reasons So many Washingtonians were traveling to Baltimore to enjoy Enrique Limardo's cooking that he finally gave in to their requests that he move south. Building on his success at Alma Cocina Latina, he shows "an impressive command over an array of influences," including the Spanish, Indian, Chinese, and Italian strains in the cuisine of his native Venezuela. Think swordfish belly and trout roe served on a tostada over green mango salad. 2208 14th St. NW, (202) 417-8563

Thip Khao Chef Seng Luangrath now owns four restaurants in D.C. and its suburbs, with each location showcasing "the herbal, funky, often spicy cooking of her native Laos." At her "stylishly casual" café in Columbia Heights, don't miss the red goat curry, "famous for its furnace-blast heat." 3462 14th St. NW, (202) 387-5426



The casual charm of Poca Madre

This week's dream: Tunisia, North Africa's democratic oasis

Visiting Tunis today, “it’s hard to imagine there was ever a time when the city didn’t feel so uninhibited,” said Sebastian Modak in *The New York Times*. The cosmopolitan capital where the Arab Spring democracy movement began nine years ago has been reborn since the ouster of dictator Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali. Young Tunisian artists and entrepreneurs have returned from abroad in droves, and though the country’s recent presidential election didn’t seem to electrify the populace, optimism is in the air. The energy is particularly noticeable in Gammarth, a Tunis suburb “so packed with bars, it resembles a theme park for adults.” I make friends quickly at a nightclub where everyone is dancing like nobody’s watching. “This would never have happened so openly even 10 years ago,” one reveler shouted to me.

“Tunisia has a bit of everything, from Roman ruins to beach resorts.” I started my trip in Tunis’ outskirts, in the popular sea-



Tunisians unwind on a rooftop near the medina's bell tower.

side town of Sidi Bou Said, where the buildings’ white-and-blue color scheme can make you think you’re in Greece. After popping into galleries and sipping tea at a rooftop café, I walked all the way to Carthage—the famous ancient city destroyed and then rebuilt by the Romans. I saw all its sights in a day but “could easily have returned for repeat visits.” Once in Tunis, I enjoyed a

memorable meal at a roadside stall, where I talked to a young entrepreneur who spoke excitedly about Tunisia’s future but was there for *lablabi*—bread smothered with chickpeas, spiced broth, and chili paste, “the kind of comfort food you can just eat and eat.”

Nothing topped the days and nights I spent in Tunis’ medina. The 1,300-year-old heart of the city is so dense and labyrinthine that taxi drivers refuse to enter. Luckily, I was given an impromptu tour by a local who showed me mosques, madrasas, music schools, and mausoleums, which still draw the Muslim faithful and seem to occupy every other corner. Cats were also everywhere, even hiding in gaps between bricks. “Cats are the soul of this city,” my guide said. “The place is full of secrets—I think they know them all.”

At Sidi Bou Said’s *Villa Kahina* (kahina.villa.com), rooms start at \$149.

Hotel of the week



Celebrating Louis Sullivan

Hotel Saint Louis

St. Louis

One of the world’s first skyscrapers has been converted into a luxury hotel, “and what a luxury hotel it is,” said Daniel Neman in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. The former Union Trust tower, built in 1893 by renowned architect Louis Sullivan, still bears Sullivan’s stylistic hallmarks, “from the spectacular elevator doors to the architectural filigree that adorns the top.” The 140 light-filled guest units feature chandeliers, “exceedingly comfortable” beds, and “hysterically” high-tech toilets. At the on-site restaurant, expect “the best of St. Louis,” including pork steak and Missouri catfish. hotelsaintlouis.com; doubles from \$129

Getting the flavor of...

Fall in the Eastern Sierra

“I wish October were 90 days long,” said Chris Erskine in the *Los Angeles Times*. Last month, I took my teenage son and our dog for a road trip in the Eastern Sierra, “my forest primeval,” where the aspen leaves shimmered like countless gold coins. We drove up Highway 395, tracing California’s eastern border and passing through timeless little mountain towns with names like Big Pine and Lone Pine. “I could make a weekend stopping in every bait and tackle shop along the way, bumming the free coffee in the back.” My son and I must have looked like “the oddest couple ever, a before-and-after cautionary tale.” But our blue-eyed wolfdog bonded us, leading the way along trails near June Lake and nearby Silver Lake, “one of California’s magnificent playpens.” Already, Mammoth Lakes ski resort is “a snowy masterwork.” And in the fall, “the sunlight—California’s famed butterscotch beams—flatters everything it touches here.”

Iowa’s monument to mound builders

“Iowa has a reputation for being flat and monotonous,” said Steve Stephens in *The Columbus Dispatch*. “I have only traveled the edges, however, which are anything but.” Most recently, I visited the state’s northeastern corner to explore Effigy Mounds National Monument, a woodsy tract where steep rocky bluffs overlook the Mississippi River. About 1,000 years ago, Native Americans created 10,000 low earthen mounds throughout the area, some shaped like bears, turtles, and birds. Today, fewer than 1,000 remain, including 206 protected by the park, with the largest, Great Bear Mound, measuring 137 feet long. “No one knows the purpose of the mounds, whether ceremonial, religious, or artistic.” Because they’re only a few feet tall, seeing them is “a bit underwhelming.” But cliff-edge overlooks like Fire Point offer tremendous views and a chance to reflect on the mound makers, and how much this place meant to them.

Last-minute travel deals

Linger in Los Cabos

Through Dec. 19, fourth nights are free on select dates at Las Ventanas al Paraíso, a luxury Baja resort often listed among Mexico’s finest. After the discount, suites start at \$724 a night, butler service included. Use code More Rosewood. rosewoodhotels.com

Europe by river

Save up to \$2,500 per couple on select European river cruises with Emerald Waterways when you book by Nov. 23. For example, the eight-day “Secrets of the Douro” cruise through Portugal and Spain starts at \$3,795 a person. emeraldwaterways.com

The beauty of Bali

Visit magnificent temples and waterfalls and enjoy a cooking class on SmarTours’ 12-day “Breathtaking Bali” excursion. Book by Nov. 25 to save up to \$400 on 2020 departures. Rates start at \$2,499 a person, including airfare. smartours.com

The 2020 Hyundai Venue: What the critics say

Autoblog.com

"Hyundai's smallest SUV is exactly what the market is asking for." Arriving late this month with a sub-\$18,000 price tag that makes it the most affordable crossover on the market, the all-new subcompact is "quite attractive in the flesh" and "moves with enough zest to be entertaining to buyers in this class." It's even reasonably roomy inside. "Hyundai hasn't botched an interior in years, and its hitting streak continues with the Venue."

Automobile

Though the engineering is "about as pedestrian as it comes," this is "a competent

little SUV." Power from the 121 hp engine is "decent enough," and "we approve of the way the Venue takes corners." The entry-level price buys a six-speed manual transmission and 35 mpg in highway driving. The \$18,345 model gets an automatic CVT and a combined EPA rating of 32 mpg.

Car and Driver

"There's not a lot of room in the back seat for those appendages popularly known as 'legs.'" Otherwise, the interior is "awfully beguiling," and only slightly tighter than Hyundai's compact SUV, the Kona. Don't expect innovation from this urban get-about, because you won't find it. But that's OK.



As small as they come, from \$17,250

"Calling the Venue ordinary isn't to damn it with faint praise; it's to recognize that ordinary today exists on a higher plane."

The best of...Thanksgiving problem solvers



Hot Date Casserole Carrier

Carry casserole dishes securely with this insulated poly-twill tote bag. It holds a 9-by-13-inch pan, withstands temperatures up to 250 degrees, and keeps dishes warm for two to three hours. Available in four prints. \$40, scoutbags.com
Source: Real Simple



Chicago Metallic Pie Weight

Traditional pie weights work fine—"until you have to remove the ripping hot beads from the shell." This ventilated metal disc is easier to use because it's ringed with silicone flaps that serve as heat-resistant grips. \$18, amazon.com
Source: Cook's Illustrated



ButterUp Knife

Forget to thaw the butter? This little knife from Australia has a perforated edge that cuts effortlessly into cold butter, creating "the most delicate little curlicues." It "not only makes butter immediately usable," it makes buttering an art. \$20, store.moma.org
Source: NYMag.com



SunrisePro Supreme Knife Sharpener

This countertop tool "does an excellent job of sharpening virtually any kitchen knife"—even serrated bread knives. Its pivoting safety handle and suction cup base ensure injury-free sharpening. "Three or four strokes is all it takes." \$12, walmart.com
Source: Popular Mechanics



Lodge Enameled Dutch Oven

Not ready to splurge on a Le Creuset? Lodge's 6-quart enameled cast-iron cooking pot sears and braises foods just as well as the coveted French-made models that cost six times as much. It's available in several colors. \$60, homedepot.com
Source: TheWirecutter.com

Tip of the week...

How to not feel hungry all the time

■ **Get more rest.** When the body is sleep-deprived, it produces more ghrelin, the hormone that stimulates appetite. Fatigue will make you crave junk food, too.

■ **Drink more water.** "It's normal to confuse thirst with hunger." To keep from getting dehydrated, drink half as many ounces of water each day as your weight in pounds. If you weigh 180 lbs, that's 90 oz, or 11 cups.

■ **Balance your diet.** To feel full, you need to eat a mix of carbohydrates, fats, and protein. Carbs should be 45 to 65 percent of your calories, fats 20 to 35 percent, and protein 10 to 35 percent. And a daily helping of fiber will also help you feel full longer.

■ **Evaluate your stress.** If you've missed no meals and crave something specific (like Häagen-Dazs), "you might just be emotional-hungry." Pause to consider if boredom or anxiety might be the real problem. Then do something fun or relaxing.

Source: GQ.com

And for those who have everything...

After a big meal, a tight belt is the enemy. That's probably why the **Smart Belt** became the most crowdfunded clothing accessory of all time

in 2017, and its 2.0 and 3.0 editions have since broken that record twice. Though it's not the only ratcheting belt on the market, it's the only one reinforced with Kevlar and offered in so many styles, including two types of full-grain, plant-dyed Italian leather. A track with 32 closely spaced ratchet points sits on the belt's inside, and "a hidden release button on the underside of the buckle lets you discreetly loosen the belt when you sit down—truly a revelation."

\$59, harmattandesign.com

Source: TheInventory.com



Best apps and websites...

For on-demand travel experiences

■ **GetMyBoat** makes it easy to get out on the water. Boat owners in 184 countries have listed 180,000 vessels, ranging from paddleboards to captained yachts, and users can choose between rentals, charters, lessons, tours, and package adventures.

■ **Swimply** might be proof that we've hit peak sharing economy. The app connects you with pool owners willing to rent you access. It works a lot like an Airbnb rental, except with swimsuits.

■ **DayUse.com** can help tired travelers in need of a nap, shower, or simply a place to relax during daylight hours. Participating hotels and resorts offer rooms at up to 75 percent off overnight rates. Access to amenities is usually included.

■ **AuthenticCook.com** offers a new twist for tourists in India: private households across the country willing to host you for dinner. Cooking tips are often part of the experience. Source: The New York Times

THE WEEK

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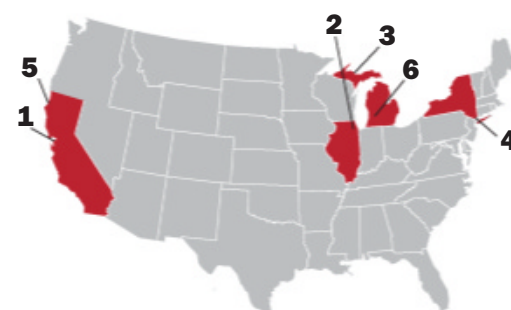
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This week: Victorian Stick-style homes

1 ◀ Oakland The 1885 DeRome House shares its Paradise Park property with a 2003 duplex. The seven-bedroom main house has four fireplaces, pocket doors, bay windows, carved wood, and a Parisian attic atelier. The duplex units, a studio and a one-bedroom, have high ceilings, polished concrete floors, and clerestory windows below shed roofs. The lot includes private yards, gardens, and two resident goats, Tulip and Banjo. \$2,800,000. Kathleen Wilson, Red Oak Realty, (510) 919-1712

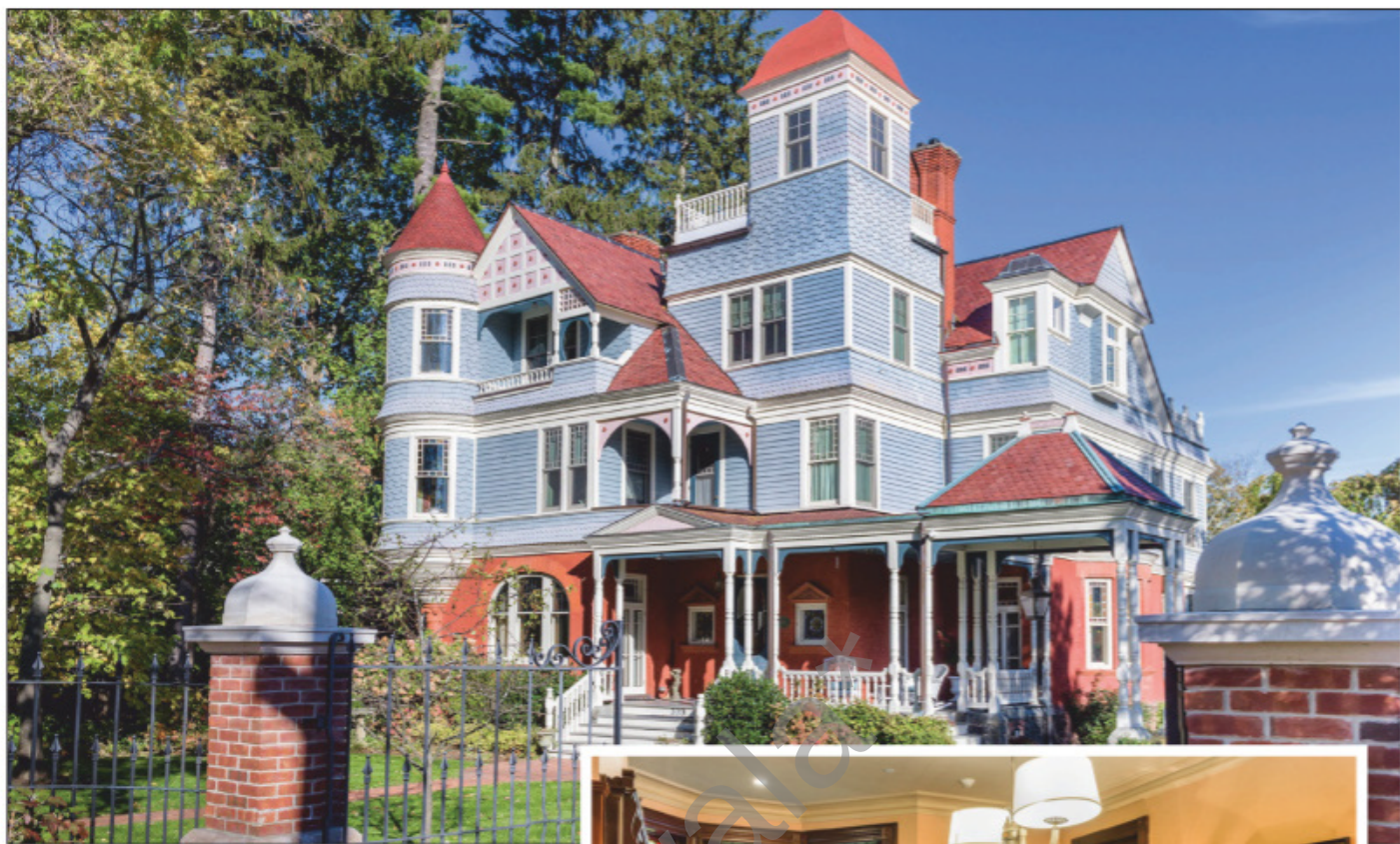


2 ◀ Downer's Grove, Ill. The 1890 Tillie Kinney House has been restored and updated, with a new roof added in 2018. The four-bedroom home features hardwood floors throughout, 10-foot ceilings, original wood trim and moldings, leaded front-door windows, updated kitchen, sun porch, and walk-up attic. French doors lead to the front porch, and in back is a deck with a pergola. \$572,500. Vicki Whipple, Platinum Partners Realtors, (630) 430-7650

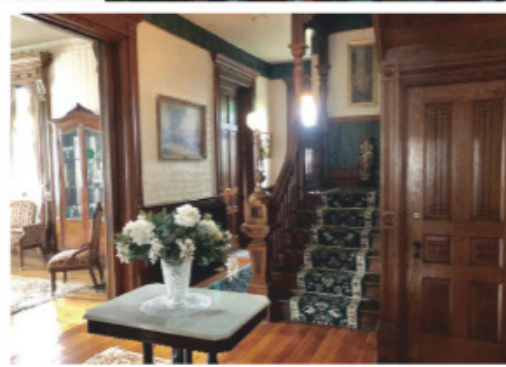
3 ▶ Marquette, Mich. This 1882 seven-bedroom home retains its original woodwork, hardwood floors, fireplace treatments, stained glass, and chandeliers. The two-room kitchen is updated, and the lower level includes a kitchenette, sitting room, and private entrance. The property, two blocks from Lake Superior, has lawns, gardens, a lap pool, and a three-car garage with potential living space. \$599,000. Carol Vining Moore, eXp Realty of Marquette, (906) 360-2633



4 ► Nyack, N.Y. The Bennett-Deyrup House once belonged to Alvin Johnson, who co-founded the New School for Social Research and helped save 200 German-Jewish professors in the 1930s. The 1887 six-bedroom home has lincrusta ceilings and walls; stained-glass windows; eight fireplaces, four with original tiling; zoned air and heat; and a sound system and home theater. Outside are a pergola, gardens, and a lawn leading down to the Hudson River. \$4,395,000. Richard Ellis, Ellis Sotheby's International Realty, (914) 393-0438



5 ▲ Eureka, Calif. This four-bedroom home, built in 1887, features high ceilings, crown molding, original door hardware, and period-specific embossed wallpaper. Other details include a living room fireplace with the original carved mantel, a library bay window, a private entrance to the first-floor bedroom, and a third-story cupola with ocean and city views. The corner lot has a patio, yard, and two-car garage. \$499,000. Jeff Ragan, Ming Tree Realtors, (707) 269-4389



Steal of the week



6 ▲ Hastings, Mich. Called the handsomest house in Hastings in its early days, this 1885 Stick-style–Queen Anne hybrid began as a private home, then became the town's first hospital, then a convalescent home. Restored as a five-bedroom, single-family house, it features quarter-sawn oak and ornate butternut woodwork, pocket doors, built-ins, three fireplaces, and a turret. Outside are front and back porches, lawns, and mature trees. \$349,900, Doug Takens, Independence Realty, (616) 262-4574

BUSINESS

The news at a glance

The bottom line

■ The median age of first-time home buyers jumped to 33 from July 2018 to June 2019, the oldest since the National Association of Realtors began keeping records in 1981. Meanwhile, the median age of all homebuyers rose to 47, up from just 31 in 1981. *Investor's Business Daily*

■ In a survey of 2,000 viewers, Americans said they are willing to spend up to \$44 monthly on streaming video. That is up roughly \$14 from what most people pay now. However, nearly 1 in 3 Netflix subscribers said they would likely cancel the service in the next three months. *The Wall Street Journal*

■ Hedge fund manager Jim Simons' Medallion Fund has generated annual returns of 39 percent after fees since 1988, with only one annual loss—and only three monthly losses between 2001 and 2010. *Bloomberg Businessweek*

■ A New Jersey country club is suing a waiter who spilled red wine on a woman's \$30,000 Hermès Kelly bag. The woman had sued the Alpine Country Club, where members pay \$19,000 annually, for the price of the since-discontinued pink clutch. *The Washington Post*

■ Worldwide, the wealth of billionaires fell 4.3 percent in 2018 to \$8.5 trillion—the first time the ultrarich had seen such a reduction since 2015. The number of billionaires fell in every nation except the United States, which claimed 749 billionaires at the end of 2018. *Reuters.com*

■ Chinese telecom maker Huawei will pay out \$286 million in bonuses and double almost all 190,000 employees' monthly salaries for October as a reward for helping counter U.S. sanctions. *Financial Times*

Entertainment: Disney's big bet on streaming

The much-anticipated Disney+ streaming service stumbled out of the gate this week as high demand overwhelmed the platform, said Brooks Barnes and Nancy Coleman in *The New York Times*. Aiming to “offer a complete library of Disney, Pixar, *Star Wars*, and Marvel movies,” Disney+ arrived with “every trumpet in the Magic Kingdom blowing on its behalf.” For the first time this year, worldwide streaming subscriber numbers, 613 million, exceed cable customers (556 million); for Disney the rollout is a “transformative event,” untethering it from the declining cable business. Though some viewers posted screenshots of the glitches, “Wall Street seemed confident” they’d be resolved.



Disney's unbeatable character lineup

This is “the most important product launch in Bob Iger’s 15 years as CEO,” said Devin Leonard in *Bloomberg Businessweek*. Iger’s first idea to compete with streamers “was to buy Twitter.” Fortunately, he reconsidered, and now says he feels relief “every day” that the merger didn’t happen. Disney’s initial cord-cutting efforts, ESPN+ and Hulu, have been money losers. But Disney+ is different. A series of “10-figure purchases”—Pixar, Marvel, and Lucasfilm—made Disney Hollywood’s most successful movie company. Now it’s taking that strategy of “cornering the market on the most valuable entertainment character universes” into the home.

Trade: China deal still trapped in details

President Trump said this week that the first phase of a trade deal with China could be completed “soon,” but tariffs would be “raised very substantially” if no truce was reached, said James Politi in the *Financial Times*. The threat of a new escalation of the war between Washington and Beijing “highlights the trouble the U.S. administration is having in its efforts to strike an interim deal” after Trump announced the sides had reached a tentative agreement in October. Since then, officials have been “haggling over the details,” including the location where an agreement might be signed and whether existing levies would be rolled back.

Google: New scrutiny of data giant's health effort

Regulators and lawmakers raised questions about Google’s work with the nation’s second-largest health system to gather and analyze records of millions of Americans, said Rob Copeland in *The Wall Street Journal*. The Project Nightingale initiative, revealed by the *Journal* this week, began in secret last year with Ascension, a chain of 2,600 hospitals and medical facilities. At least 150 Google employees “have access to much of the data,” including “lab results, doctor diagnoses, and hospitalization records” together with patient names. Federal regulators have asked Google for more information about the program, with at least one lawmaker, Sen. Mark Warner (D.-Va.), calling for it to be stopped.

Goldman Sachs: A sexist credit algorithm?

New York state regulators this week initiated an inquiry into Goldman Sachs over an algorithm used in its new credit-card venture with Apple, said Sridhar Natarajan and Shahien Nasiripour in *Bloomberg.com*. The investigation began after a prominent software developer, David Heinemeier Hansson, tweeted that the Apple Card gave him 20 times the credit limit of his wife, even though she has a higher credit score. Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak said that he and his wife had a similar experience. Hansson said he hoped his posts “would spark a conversation” about biases in the “black-box algorithms” used by lenders.

Football: Bezos is looking to buy a team

Amazon founder Jeff Bezos wants to add an NFL franchise to his gilded portfolio, said Jason La Canfora in *CBSSports.com*. The world’s richest man “has become close with several owners,” and “has strong support within the league to eventually join their ranks.” While there are no teams now on the market, Paul Allen, owner of the Seattle Seahawks in Amazon’s home city, died last year, and his team will be sold. The Carolina Panthers were sold for a record \$2.2 billion in May 2018.

Sorry, tourists: China has an app for that

Cash or credit? Tourists in China are finding those options aren’t enough, said Shan Li in *The Wall Street Journal*. As China goes increasingly cashless, mobile payment apps like Tencent, WeChat Pay, and Alipay are “how people hail taxis, consult doctors, pay for meals, and book flights.” Indeed, even street carts and “beggars are asking for money via QR code.” But while it’s arguably made life easier for China’s 1.4 billion people, “it can leave the 140 million tourists arriving in the mainland each year helpless.” The dominant payment platforms don’t function without a Chinese bank account, and credit cards are quickly becoming obsolete. Even cash is for the “dinosaurs.” Though the People’s Bank of China recently made it illegal for businesses to refuse cash, one visitor from Sweden found that a shopkeeper at the Great Wall wouldn’t take her yuan “for a bottle of water.”

Financial transparency: Learning to talk about money

“A new openness is changing the way we talk about our finances,” said Alex Holder in *The Guardian*. More people are sharing information about their salaries, their home budgets, and even credit card bills on social media, often with the hashtag #debt. Gig workers, in particular, are “self-organizing” in the absence of HR departments, establishing Facebook groups to discuss pay rates, offer advice, and air financial grievances. One key reason for this development is generational, said Hillary Hoffer in *BusinessInsider.com*. “Millennials are much more open about money than their parents are.”

Our survey shows that 30 percent of Millennials share financial information with their friends. Among older generations, that’s practically unheard-of.

Talking about your salary can still be difficult and embarrassing, said Amy Bernstein in *HBR.org*. Income has always been the yardstick by which we measure ourselves. “In *Pride and Prejudice*, it’s right there. You know: Mr. Darcy, he gets 10,000 a year.” Finding out you make less than a co-worker can feel like a personal failing. But talking to colleagues gets us important information, and “helps us figure out if we’re being paid fairly.” Still, trying to have a conversation about money, with colleagues or friends, often shows us “how deeply our emotions are inter-



Try to discuss the emotional reasons behind spending.

twined with our attitudes toward money,” said Claer Barrett in the *Financial Times*. Debt is an especially sensitive subject; tackling it almost always requires not just financial planning, but also understanding the “emotional reasons” for your spending. I’ve given more than 100 money talks over the past four years, and “there are always people who hang back at the end” to confide a personal question rather than ask it aloud. “Nine times out of 10, this will relate to debt.”

How do your neighbors “afford the elaborate remodel and the luxury vacations they’re bragging about on their Instagram accounts *and* the private-school tuition?” asked Alina Tugend in *The New York Times*. Often, when we see our friends’ spending, we assume we are just worse financial managers. In reality, that’s frequently untrue. Take the case of Ellen, who watched friends spend on vacations and home additions. It all came apart when her friends ran out of money and had to sell the home they had spent so much to remodel. In other cases, what you’re seeing is not out-of-control spending. It’s family help that pays for things like college tuition. When people apparently spend a lot more than their income would seem to justify, “it’s often because there is hidden wealth or hidden debt.”

What the experts say

Using tax debt to steal your house

A county in Michigan seized a man’s home, sold it, and pocketed the revenue after he underpaid his property taxes by \$8.41, said Eric Boehm in *Reason*. Uri Rafaeli paid \$60,000 for a three-bedroom, 1,500-square-foot home in Southfield, Mich., as a rental property in 2011. He made a mistake on his property tax payments and miscalculated the interest he owed by less than \$9. A year later, Rafaeli’s property was one of 11,000 that Oakland County put up for auction, thanks to “Michigan’s uniquely aggressive property tax statute.” After a property is auctioned, the county also gets to keep the proceeds, creating a “perverse incentive for county officials to effectively steal from their constituents.” One Michigan county official emailed she was “tickled pink” to seize a \$3.5 million property the day after a tax deadline passed.

Falling earnings for gig workers

“Delivery drivers for many third-party platforms say they’re being wrung out” by changing algorithms and pay structures, said Abha Bhattarai in *The Washington Post*. Apps such as DoorDash, Postmates, Instacart, and Fresh Direct have “gamified” gig work, “offering sporadic bonuses for delivering a certain num-

ber of orders, for example.” This has let the platforms “make incremental changes” to their payment algorithms “without raising red flags.” Indeed, “Postmates workers said they are making 30 percent less than they once did after the company changed its algorithms and eliminated a \$4-per-job guarantee in May.” Instacart drivers are guaranteed 60 cents per mile between the store and customer—based solely on distance rather than the time it takes to complete the trip—which adds up to “an ever-changing guessing game.”

Nationwide glut of unclaimed assets

Government agencies are holding tens of billions of dollars in unclaimed assets, said Mark Stein in *The New York Times*. Estimates vary, but some suspect the face value of matured Treasury savings bonds could be as much as \$80 billion, “and the total has been growing faster than states can find owners or heirs.” In 2015, states returned \$3.2 billion to the rightful owners, but the agencies received more than \$7.6 billion in new assets. “Gift cards are a fairly recent source of revenue in some states, which claim the value on those cards when they aren’t redeemed.” There is no central database for unclaimed assets, but you can find listings for 41 states at MissingMoney.com.

Charity of the week

The **Women’s Business Development Center (wbdc.org)** was founded in 1986

to support startups and nurture entrepreneurs’ development, with a focus



on women, minorities, and veterans. The organization offers a variety of services to build up and accelerate businesses, including workshops, monthly meetups, and a nationally recognized certification program. Headquartered in Chicago, WBDC has offices across Illinois and the Midwest. Since its inception, WBDC has assisted more than 85,000 women, given thousands of training seminars, helped facilitate some \$1 billion in corporate contracts, and annually handed out nearly 2,000 business certifications. Donations to the WBDC pay for emerging women-owned business to receive certification, an important tool for getting noticed by government and industry procurement programs.

Each charity we feature has earned a four-star overall rating from Charity Navigator, which rates not-for-profit organizations on the strength of their finances, their governance practices, and the transparency of their operations. Four stars is the group’s highest rating.

Sharing economy: Airbnb tries to put out the fires

Airbnb is the latest technology giant forced to “reckon with the unintended consequences of how people use” its platform, said **David Yaffe-Bellany** in *The New York Times*. The home-sharing company announced last week that it “plans to conduct a comprehensive review” of all 7 million of its listings, verifying “photographs, addresses, and other information posted with each property.” The announcement came after a shooting killed five people at a party in an Airbnb rental in California, and a report by *Vice* about a rental scam in which Airbnb guests were notified about an “emergency” before their intended stay and rebooked at a much dingier property. The news comes as Airbnb faces backlash from critics who question how effectively the platform monitors bad actors and who say the company pushes “unruly tourists into residential areas.”



Five people died in a shooting at an Airbnb.

Jersey City, N.J., became the latest city to crack down after voters last week backed “strict short-term rental regulations,” said **Paris Martineau** in *Wired.com*. Airbnb spent \$4.2 million “blanketing Jersey City in television ads, handouts, and pro-Airbnb canvassers”; New York’s hotel union poured in resources on the other side. While other cities have put limits on Airbnb, this defeat especially stings because Airbnb saw its relationship with Jersey City as “an exemplary partnership.” In 2015, Jersey City legalized short-term rentals in exchange for an annual occupancy tax. That attracted investors who saw an opportunity to rent places right outside New York “without running afoul of New York’s tight rules on short-term rentals.”

Don’t take the opposition to Airbnb at face value, said **David Freddoso** in *WashingtonExaminer.com*. The “hotel industry and its moribund unions” have “spread the message that Airbnb is either going to ruin your neighborhood or take away your job or make your rent go up.” Airbnb’s foes hope to justify “anti-homeowner and anti-property rights ordinances” with claims about “wild parties, deaths, murders, and other mayhem.” Yes, one reality show contestant got himself “tased and arrested” at an Airbnb in Los Angeles. So what? John Belushi, Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, and Whitney Houston all died in hotels. “Do you feel worse about hotels now?” Investors aren’t bothered by the attacks on Airbnb—they’re jostling to get in on it, said **Miles Kruppa** in the *Financial Times*. The company isn’t public yet, but investors are flocking to buy “the right to proceeds from future IPO sales.” The price investors are paying for those rights indicates that Airbnb could be worth about \$42 billion.

Airbnb presented itself as “a virtuous disrupter: a new and more efficient way of doing things that comes in and sweeps away an old and sclerotic order,” said **Jeff Spross** in *TheWeek.com*. It was supposed to be an open marketplace where travelers and hosts could find each other. Now that’s becoming increasingly untenable. Airbnb now says that the “hands-off” model is “not really enough.” But wasn’t it the hands-off model that was supposed to make the sharing economy better? Without it, there’s not much left. “We already have an industry that specializes in providing short-term rentals to travelers: the hotel industry.”

Facebook’s secret plan is paranoia

Casey Newton
TheVerge.com

To understand Facebook, you need to know that Mark Zuckerberg is “one of the most paranoid leaders in Silicon Valley history,” said Casey Newton. To outsiders, Facebook is “a monolith that steamrolls entire industries and nation-states.” But for Zuckerberg and his fellow Facebook execs, it’s “never more than a few bad breaks away from oblivion.” A long-running lawsuit between Facebook and the founder of the defunct company Six4Three provides insight into Zuckerberg’s state of mind. Six4Three made an “atrocious” app called Pikinis that “found photos of your Facebook friends in their swimsuits.” However unsympathetic Pikinis might be, the lawsuit has ex-

posed thousands of pages of documents that show Facebook’s dread of potential rivals. Facebook would cut off access to its data for outside apps when they grew too popular and posed a threat to a business—such as messaging or dating—that Facebook was involved in. Then Facebook would “publicly frame these moves as a way to protect user privacy.” Executives even had a name for the strategy of talking about privacy while knocking out competitors: the Switcharoo Plan. Switcharoo didn’t come out of a master plan to hijack and monetize your data. Of course, it did that. But it was born, like most Facebook initiatives, “out of mortal fear” of competition.

Our 401(k)s are letting us down

Michael Hiltzik
Los Angeles Times

“401(k) plans haven’t helped you save enough for retirement,” said Michael Hiltzik. For decades, economists have debated questions such as whether the plans, compared with older-style pensions, “leave too many workers behind” or increase inequality. We now have some answers, and they are not encouraging. In a new study, two experts—one liberal, one conservative—collaborated to find out how well 401(k)s have fared “and reached agreement that the plans haven’t been working well enough to help workers save for retirement.” The two experts postulated that if workers earning median wages invested consistently into their 401(k) plans from age 25 to 60,

they should expect to accumulate \$364,000. “The typical 60-year-old with a 401(k), however, has only \$92,000.” Some of the shortfall comes from workers starting to save late; 401(k) plans “began to surge only toward the end of the 1980s.” Still, even workers who started saving at 30 should have \$270,000 by age 60. So what else is happening? For one thing, many workers spent part of their career with employers who didn’t offer the plans. More insidious is “the cumulative loss from early withdrawals.” There’s a big early-withdrawal penalty, but that doesn’t deter “workers with small balances and larger needs”—a painful reflection of our economic inequality.

The 'tough mother' who led an outerwear giant

Gert Boyle

1924–2019

After her husband died of a heart attack in 1970, Gert Boyle suddenly found herself in charge of the family company, Columbia Sportswear. The stay-at-home mother of three had no business experience, and bankers were soon pushing her to offload the struggling outdoor-clothing firm. But when she discovered that she'd get a mere \$1,400 for Columbia, Boyle declared that for that amount, "I'll drive it into the ground myself!"

Together with her college-age son, Tim, she repositioned the Oregon-based company as a maker of affordable ski jackets and waterproof garb, and became the face of Columbia. In ads, Boyle was portrayed as "One Tough Mother" who made sure her outerwear was always up to grade. In one TV commercial, she strapped Tim to the roof of a car and drove through mud and rain; in a print spot, she flexed a bicep with a tattoo that read "Born to Nag." The absurdist ads made Boyle famous and helped turn Columbia from a regional player to a \$3 billion colossus.

She was born in Augsburg, Germany, to a wealthy Jewish family that owned a shirt factory, said *The Wall Street Journal*. When she was 13, her family fled the Nazis and settled in Portland,



Ore., where her father bought the Rosenfeld Hat Co. "Thinking Americans might dislike a foreign-sounding name, he searched the phone book for ideas" and picked Columbia. Boyle worked there as a youngster putting hat boxes together, and after graduating high school enrolled at the University of Arizona, where she met her future husband, Neal Boyle. He joined her family's firm in the 1950s "and took over as president in 1964 when her father died," said

The New York Times. Following Neal's death, sales plummeted, and Boyle and her son had to quickly rethink the business. They began outsourcing to Asia and started selling outdoor jackets for \$100—a third of the typical price. By the early 1980s, "the numbers turned around."

Boyle stepped down as president in 1988, "making way for her son," said *The Washington Post*. But she remained active in business and philanthropy into her 90s, regularly visiting the Columbia office to sign company checks and donating \$100 million for cancer research at Oregon Health & Science University. She refused to have a college building named after her. "If I'm going to have my name on any cement," she said, "I'll probably be under it."

The 'diminutive giant' who helped millions of refugees

When Sadako Ogata became the first woman to head the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in 1991, many in the U.N.

Sadako Ogata

1927–2019

thought the Japanese academic was too meek and self-effacing

to be an effective leader. Ogata immediately proved them wrong. With millions of Iraqi Kurds fleeing from the forces of Saddam Hussein, Ogata changed the U.N.'s rules to help refugees displaced internally as well as those who crossed international borders. She then prevailed on Iran and Turkey, both of which had been turning the Kurds away, to let the U.N. set up "safe havens" on their borders—and persuaded Iraq to not attack the camps. Paying tribute to her diplomatic skills, the *Tehran Times* referred to Ogata—who stood just under 5 feet tall—as "the diminutive giant."

Born in Tokyo to a diplomat father, she spent her early years in the U.S., Hong Kong, and China and later became a professor of international relations at Japan's Sophia University, said *The Daily Telegraph* (U.K.). She was appointed to the Japanese delegation to the U.N. General Assembly in 1968 and was soon tasked with handling "a series of special jobs for the U.N. secretary-general."

As head of UNHCR until 2000, Ogata "oversaw refugee operations during a time of ravaging conflict," said *The New York Times*. She responded to those fleeing bloodshed in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Rwanda, and East Timor, as well as in Iraq, and often visited war zones to witness people's plight. "She was unafraid to criticize her own country's poor record on accepting refugees"—last year, Japan let in only 42. "If Japan doesn't open a door," she said in 2016, "it's against human rights."

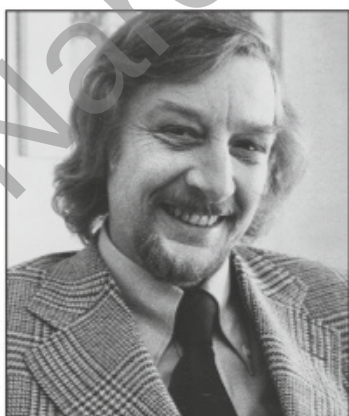
The playwright who created *The Partridge Family*

Bernard Slade

1930–2019

Bernard Slade was hunting for a new sitcom idea when he caught a mom and her six singing children performing on *The Tonight Show*. The group, The Cowsills, inspired Slade to write *The Partridge Family*, about a musical clan that finds success as a pop band. The show debuted on ABC in 1970, spawned hit songs, including "I Think I Love You," and made a teen idol out of David Cassidy. But after four seasons, Slade tired of arguing with TV executives and returned to his first love: theater. He quickly found success with the 1975 play *Same Time, Next Year*, which follows an adulterous couple who reunite for one weekend each year at the same bed-and-breakfast. The show ran for 1,453 performances on Broadway and became one of the world's most-produced plays. "I wrote television for the money. I wrote the play for myself," Slade said. "Yet it's the play that's made me the most money. There's a lesson in that somewhere."

Born in St. Catharines, Ontario, Slade moved with his parents to their native England in 1935, said *HollywoodReporter.com*. He "spent World War II as a child evacuee, moving constantly and attend-



ing 13 schools in seven years." Always the "new boy," Slade said, he evolved the "personality of the class wit." After returning to Canada at age 18, Slade took up acting, and in the late 1950s began writing for the stage, radio, and TV. He moved to Los Angeles in 1964 and was soon writing for sitcoms, including *Bewitched*. Slade, to his embarrassment, also helped develop ABC's *The Flying Nun*, about a novice nun (Sally Field) who could catch the breeze and go airborne. "I was ducking into doorways when I'd see friends," Slade said. "I did not want as an epitaph 'He Created the Flying Nun.'"

Critical acclaim finally came his way with *Same Time, Next Year*, which was nominated for a Tony for Best Play, said *The Washington Post*. Slade wrote two more Broadway hits: 1978's *Tribute*, starring Jack Lemmon as a terminally ill press agent, and the following year's *Romantic Comedy*, which cast Mia Farrow and Anthony Perkins as playwrights who slowly fall in love. Some critics found his plays too frivolous, not that Slade cared. "I've always believed that laughter is the perfume of life," he said. "It makes life bearable. Please...send in the clowns."

The slave who won reparations

A free black woman, Henrietta Wood, sued the man who kidnapped and enslaved her, said historian W. Caleb McDaniel in *Smithsonian Magazine*. Her victory made national news—but was forgotten by history.

ON APRIL 17, 1878, 12 white jurors entered a federal courtroom in Cincinnati to deliver the verdict in a now-forgotten lawsuit about American slavery. The plaintiff was Henrietta Wood, described by a reporter at the time as “a spectacled negro woman, apparently 60 years old.” The defendant was Zebulon Ward, a white man who had enslaved Wood 25 years before. She was suing him for \$20,000 in reparations.

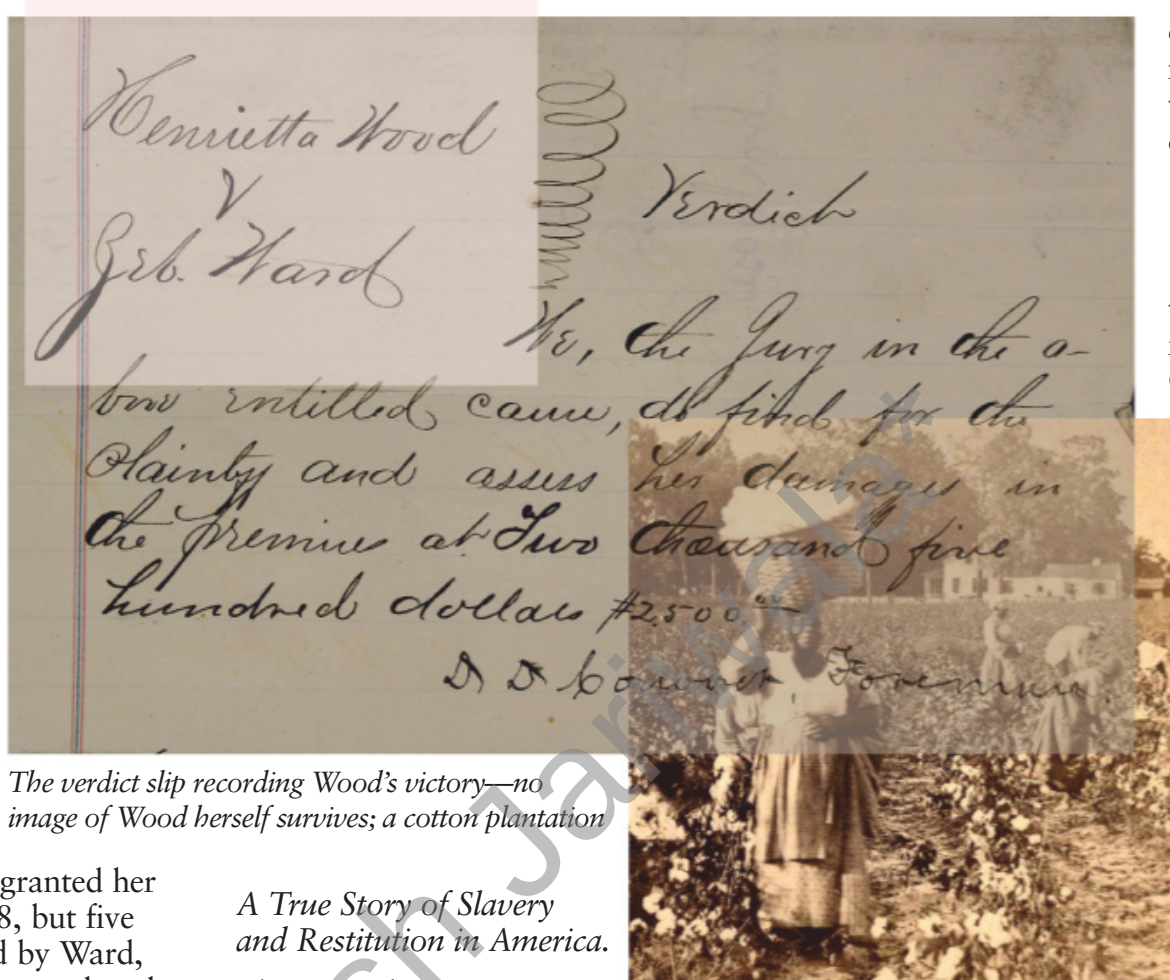
Two days earlier, the jury had watched as Wood took the stand; her son, Arthur, who lived in Chicago, was in the courtroom. Born into bondage in Kentucky, Wood testified, she had been granted her freedom in Cincinnati in 1848, but five years later she was kidnapped by Ward, who sold her, and she ended up enslaved on a Texas plantation until after the Civil War. She finally returned to Cincinnati in 1869, a free woman. She had not forgotten Ward and sued him the following year.

The trial began only after eight years of litigation, leaving Wood to wonder if she would ever get justice. Now she watched nervously as the 12 jurors returned to their seats. Finally, they announced a verdict that few expected: “We, the Jury in the above entitled cause, do find for the plaintiff and assess her damages in the premises at Two thousand five hundred dollars.”

Though a fraction of what Wood had asked for, the amount would be worth nearly \$65,000 today. It remains the largest known sum ever granted by a U.S. court in restitution for slavery.

But Wood’s name never made it into the history books. When she died in 1912, her suit was already forgotten by all except her son. Today, it remains virtually unknown, even as reparations for slavery are once again in the headlines.

I first learned of Wood from two interviews she gave to reporters in the 1870s. They led me to archives in nine states in search of her story, which I tell in full for the first time in my new book, *Sweet Taste of Liberty*:



The verdict slip recording Wood’s victory—no image of Wood herself survives; a cotton plantation

A True Story of Slavery and Restitution in America.

That story began two centuries ago with Wood’s birth in northern Kentucky. “I can’t quite tell my age,” Wood recalled in a newspaper interview in 1876, but she knew she was born enslaved to the Tousey family between 1818 and 1820. In 1834, the teenager was bought by a merchant in Louisville and taken from her family. She was soon sold again, to a French immigrant, William Cirode, who took her to New Orleans.

Cirode returned to France in 1844, abandoning his wife, Jane, who eventually took Wood with her to Ohio, a free state. Then, in 1848, Jane Cirode went to a county courthouse and registered Wood as free. “My mistress gave me my freedom,” Wood later said, “and my papers were recorded.” Wood spent the next several years performing domestic work around Cincinnati. She would one day recall that period of her life as a “sweet taste of liberty.”

All the while, however, there were people conspiring to take her freedom away. Cirode’s daughter and son-in-law, Josephine and Robert White, still lived in Kentucky and disagreed with Jane Cirode’s manumission of Wood; they viewed her as their inheritance. By the 1850s, the interstate slave trade was booming, and the Whites saw dollar signs whenever they thought

of Wood. All they needed was someone to do the dirty work of enslaving her again.

ZEBULON WARD was their man. A native Kentuckian who had recently moved to Covington, just across the Ohio River from Cincinnati, Ward became a deputy sheriff in 1853. The Whites lived in Covington, too, and in the spring of 1853 they persuaded Ward to pay them \$300 for the right to sell Wood and pocket the proceeds himself—provided he could get her.

Gangs worked throughout the antebellum period to capture free black men, women, and children and smuggle them into the South, under the cover of the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850, which required the return of runaway slaves. Ward began to plot with a group of these notorious “slave catchers.” The gang located Wood’s employer in Cincinnati, a boardinghouse keeper named Rebecca Boyd, and paid her to join their scheme. One Sunday afternoon in April 1853, Boyd tricked Wood into taking a carriage ride across the river. And when the carriage finally rolled to a stop outside of Covington, Ward’s men were waiting.

It would be 16 years before Wood set foot in Ohio again.

She spent the first nights of her captivity locked inside two roadside inns. Her captors’ destination was Lexington, Ky., where prices for slaves had risen with the Southern cotton economy. After 1815, as white settlers rushed into the lower Mississippi River Valley, many looked to purchase slaves to cultivate the region’s most profitable crop. Slave traders met the demand by buying slaves in Virginia, Kentucky, and Maryland and selling them in the cotton states. Between 1820 and 1860, nearly a million people were sold “down the river.”

Ward planned to make Wood the latest victim of this trade, but she resolved to fight. Wood secretly told her story to a sympathetic innkeeper who followed her to Lexington, where a lawsuit was filed on her behalf asserting that she was free. Wood was never allowed to testify, however, and Ward denied her claims. Her official freedom papers, at a courthouse in Cincinnati, had been destroyed in an 1849 fire, and her kidnappers had confiscated her personal copy. The case was eventually dismissed. In the eyes of Kentucky law, Wood was a slave. The freedom suit had prevented Ward from selling Wood for nearly two years, but in 1855, he took her to a Kentucky slave-trading firm that did business in Natchez, Miss. The traders put Wood up for sale at Natchez's infamous Forks of the Road slave market. Gerard Brandon, one of the largest slaveholders in the South, bought Wood and took her to his house, Brandon Hall, on the Natchez Trace. "Brandon was a very rich man," Wood later said. He owned 700 to 800 slaves on several plantations, and he "put me to work at once in the cotton field," she said. "I sowed the cotton, hoed the cotton, and picked the cotton. I worked under the meanest overseers, and got flogged and flogged, until I thought I should die."

At some point during those hellish days, Wood gave birth to Arthur, whose father is unknown. She was later removed from the cotton fields and put to work in Brandon's house.

The Civil War began, followed in 1863 by the Emancipation Proclamation, but Wood's ordeal continued. On July 1, 1863, just days before the U.S. Army arrived to free thousands of people around Natchez, Brandon, determined to defy emancipation, forced some 300 slaves to march 400 miles to Texas, far beyond the reach of federal soldiers. Wood was among them. Brandon kept her enslaved on a cotton plantation until well after the war. Even "Juneteenth," the day in June 1865 when Union soldiers arrived in Texas to enforce emancipation, did not liberate Wood. It wasn't until she returned to Mississippi with Brandon in 1866 that she gained her freedom; she continued to work for Brandon, now promised a salary of \$10 a month, but she would say she was never paid.

It was four years after the Confederate surrender before Wood was able to return up the river, where she tried to locate long-lost members of her family in Kentucky. Whether she succeeded in that quest is unknown—but she did find a lawyer, Harvey Myers. He helped Wood file a lawsuit in Cincinnati against Ward, now a wealthy man living in Lexington. The

postwar constitutional amendments that abolished slavery and extended national citizenship to ex-slaves enabled Wood to pursue Ward in federal court.

Ward's lawyers stalled, claiming that Wood's failed antebellum suit for freedom proved his innocence. They also said that Ward's alleged crimes had occurred too far in the past—a recurring argument against reparations. Wood suffered another, unexpected setback in 1874, when her lawyer was murdered by a client's husband in an unrelated divorce case. Then, in 1878, jurors ruled that Ward should pay Wood for her enslavement. A record now at the National Archives in Chicago confirms that he did, in 1879.



Brandon Hall, where Wood was enslaved

WOOD'S VICTORY BRIEFLY made her lawsuit national news. Not everyone agreed with the verdict, but the facts of her horrific story were widely accepted as credible. *The New York Times* observed, "Files of newspapers of the five years following the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law are filled with stories of the kidnapping of free men in free States." (In fact, free black Northerners had been kidnapped for years before the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850.) Some newspapers even predicted that lawsuits like hers would proliferate. As one put it, Wood's award was "not a liberal equivalent for the loss of liberty" she had suffered, but it would "be applicable to a great many cases yet untried."

Yet *Wood v. Ward* did not set a sweeping legal precedent. Even the judge who presided over Wood's case, Phillip Swing, viewed it narrowly. "Fortunately for this country the institution of slavery has passed away," he had instructed the jurors, "and we should not bring our particular ideas of the legality or morality of an institution of that character into Court or the jury-box." He had cautioned the jurors against an excessive award, claiming—falsely—that many former slaveholders already regretted slavery.

Swing also told the jurors to focus on Wood's kidnapping in assessing the case, and the vast majority of freed people could

not show, as Wood did, that they had been re-enslaved. But Wood and her lawyers had argued that the case was about much more than damages from abduction. By suing Ward for the wages she had lost while owned by Brandon, her lawyers made clear that a verdict for Wood was an acknowledgment of the evils of slavery itself.

Few white Americans wished to dwell on those evils. By 1878, white Northerners were retreating from Reconstruction. Newspapers described Wood's suit as an "old case" or a "relic of slavery times," consigning stories like hers to a fading past. "Not so many complications of a legal nature arise out of the old relations of master and slave as might have been expected," the *New-York Tribune* argued with barely concealed relief.

Wood was an early contributor to a long tradition of formerly enslaved people and their descendants demanding redress. In the 1890s another formerly enslaved woman, Callie House, led a national organization pressuring the government for ex-slave pensions. In 1969, civil rights leader James Forman issued a manifesto calling on churches and synagogues to pay half a billion dollars in reparations to black Americans. Today, many reparations advocates look to legislation, targeting governments for their complicity in slavery and white supremacy. They note that disenfranchisement and segregation only worsened the racial wealth gap, which was established under slavery and remains today. While Wood received \$2,500 as compensation for more than 16 years of unpaid labor, her former enslaver, Ward, left an estate worth at least \$600,000 when he died in 1894, a multimillionaire in today's terms.

But Wood's award, however insufficient, was not ineffectual. After her suit, she moved with her son to Chicago. With help from his mother's court-ordered compensation, Arthur bought a house, started a family, and paid for his own schooling. In 1889, he was one of the first African-American graduates of what became Northwestern University's School of Law. When he died in 1951, after a long career as a lawyer, he left behind a large clan of descendants who were able to launch professional careers of their own, even as redlining and other racially discriminatory practices put a chokehold on the South Side neighborhoods where they lived. For them, the money Henrietta Wood demanded for her enslavement made a long-lasting difference.

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Crossword No. 528: King of the Screen by Matt Gaffney

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14						15						16		
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55	56							57				58		
59				60		61	62				63			
64				65						66				
67				68						69				

- ACROSS
- 1 United prices

6 U. of Florida athlete

11 Badge wearer

14 Like some German-speaking Americans

15 Excuse

16 Care provider, briefly

17 Nov. 8 release starring Ewan McGregor as the adult Danny Torrance from Stephen King's *The Shining*

19 Skedaddled

20 Word after Nixon or Clinton

21 M–Q connectors

22 Believing, it's said

24 "No sweat," in Nogales

26 Changes the wording of

28 1976 Stephen King movie whose auditions were held jointly with those of *Star Wars*

30 Chip company

33 Altar's location

36 Warriors coach Steve

37 Easy to trick

38 Dye container

39 In, as a uniform

41 –, briefly

42 Sister city of Chicago and Shanghai

44 Go out with

45 Emperor once played by Dom DeLuise

46 Bad behaviors

47 1990 Stephen King movie with the line "Paul, my little ceramic penguin in the study always faces due south"
- 49 Like lowercase l's and j's

51 Taken punitively, as pay

55 "Whether 'tis ___ in the mind to suffer..." —*Hamlet*

57 Bernard Shaw worked there

58 *Queen Sugar* producer DuVernay

59 ___ Schumer: *Growing* (2019 comedy special)

60 1984 Stephen King movie starring 9-year-old Drew Barrymore

64 Grier of *Jackie Brown*

65 Reversal

66 France's ___ Valley

67 "Where ___ you?"

68 Suspicious

69 Specific info
- DOWN
- 1 Like some glory

2 Love, in Rome

3 Word after Costa or Puerto

4 Superlative ending

5 *Scandal* creator Rhimes

6 Show shock

7 100 percent

8 Penalty shoot-out cause

9 Due for some gym time

10 Getting ready to eat

11 1983 Stephen King movie whose title character is an evil car

12 Arab League member

13 Table tennis, casually
- 18 Montalban's *Fantasy Island* role

23 ___ Mode (*Incredibles 2* role)

25 Valuable diamond

26 Military tactic since 1911

27 Deserves

29 Name for a .txt file with important information

31 At any point

32 Block used for spaceships

33 Skin So Soft maker

34 *El ___ Times* (Texas paper)

35 1986 coming-of-age hit adapted from Stephen King's novella *The Body*

39 Inefficient

40 Has other options

43 ___ & the Gang ("Celebration" band)

45 Site of the UN's HQ

48 He held summits with Mikhail

50 Overused, as a saying

52 Newswoman Couric

53 Chris of the court

54 Has the nerve

55 Chic California town

56 "Squad" member from Minnesota

57 "Teach Your Children" band, for short

61 Come to regret

62 Slip up

63 Salmon eggs, e.g.

The Week Contest

This week's question: An exasperated mother in China suffered a heart attack after repeatedly—and unsuccessfully—attempting to help her 9-year-old understand his math homework; she was rushed to the hospital and subsequently recovered. Please come up with a medical term to describe a homework-induced health crisis that a parent might suffer.

Last week's contest: Scientists have identified the world's loudest bird: the male white bellbird of the Amazon rain forest, which has a squawk as loud as a pile driver. In its mating ritual, the male bellbird shouts its thunderous song directly into the face of a female. If there were a book about the bellbird's dating strategy, what could it be titled?

THE WINNER: "You Had Me at Bellow"
Linda Manuel, Stockton, N.J.

SECOND PLACE: "Love Hertz"
Nicole Barens, San Francisco

THIRD PLACE: "You Make Me Want to Shout"
Ujjal Kohli, Saratoga, Calif.

For runners-up and complete contest rules, please go to theweek.com/contest.

How to enter: Submissions should be emailed to contest@theweek.com. Please include your name, address, and daytime telephone number for verification; this week, type "Homework pain" in the subject line. Entries are due by noon, Eastern Time, Tuesday, Nov. 19. Winners will appear on the Puzzle Page next issue and at theweek.com/puzzles on Friday, Nov. 22. In the case of identical or similar entries, the first one received gets credit.



◀ The winner gets a one-year subscription to *The Week*.

Sudoku

Fill in all the boxes so that each row, column, and outlined square includes all the numbers from 1 through 9.

Difficulty: medium

1	6			4			5	2
8								9
				5	2	3		
		1					8	
6		4		7			5	3
		2					1	
				1	3	6		
3								1
7	1			5			8	4

Find the solutions to all *The Week's* puzzles online: www.theweek.com/puzzle.

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